



Premier Image Cosmetic & Laser Surgery

All About Cosmetic Surgery

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Greetings!

Thank you for subscribing to our E-Newsletter. I am giving it another go at writing an informative newsletter about plastic surgery.

This issue comes from an overwhelming request to address the **bewildering question of "What is the difference between the facelifting procedures that are available today?"**

Make your reservations to attend our upcoming seminar. **A night filled with food, wine, fun, and great door prizes.** It is an informative visual presentation on all the surgical and non-surgical procedures for facial and body rejuvenation. We hope you will attend.

I would love to hear your comments, good or bad.

Jeanette Hames

PS July Newsletter focused on "**How to Choose a Plastic Surgeon**"
www.picosmeticsurgery.com/pdf/newsletter



The Bewildering Variety of Face Lifting Procedures



Aging of the face is inevitable, and with time the skin of the face and neck loosen. Age, sun exposure, gravity, and genetics all contribute to the aging face. Fine lines become wrinkles, and gradually deeper folds. The jaw line softens into jowls, and beneath the chin excess skin starts to sag. As the aging population grows, it is no wonder why facelifting has become the third most performed facial cosmetic procedure.

Many people just don't have the time or money for the traditional, full facelift and are looking for economical and low downtime procedures.

In that context, it is not surprising that new procedures are now available with promises of skin tightening and lifting with less downtime and less expense. The question is do they work, how long will they last, who is doing them, and is it safe?

What will be your cup of tea? Or more importantly who will do your procedure?

There are a lot of choices out there when it comes to facial rejuvenation? After all the research I've done, I just have one thing to say, "Research your doctor and the procedure you are considering."

The Traditional Facelift



A facelift (also called a rhytidectomy) is necessary when we age because our facial muscles become slacker and the skin on the face loses its elasticity, creating folds and lines. Therefore a facelift can reduce saggy skin and wrinkles, producing a more alert and youthful appearance. Basically the facelift improves the most visible signs of aging of the cheek area, lower part of the face and the neck. **It is the ultimate rejuvenation technique for sagging muscles, fat, and skin, which forms jowls along the jaw-line and creates a double chin or "turkey neck."**

How a Face and Neck Lift (Rhytidectomy) is done. A facelift is a surgical operation to lift up the facial tissues and skin and/or the underlying muscle, in order to have a tighter and smoother face. It is necessary when we age because our facial muscles become slacker and the skin on the face loses its elasticity, creating folds and lines.

The surgeon tightens the inner layers of tissue and muscle, permanently affixing them and then redrapes the skin without tension. Liposuction may be performed at the same time as the lift to remove deposits of fat under the neck and sometimes along the jawline as well.

All incisions are camouflaged in natural creases and are tailored to each patients face and hairline.

Cost \$6,000 - \$8,000. Downtime 10 - 14 days.

Read on...

The "QT Mini Facelift"



The "QT Mini Facelift" is the low downtime alternative to face-lifting. The procedure was developed by double board certified facial plastic surgeons William E. Silver and Louis M. DeJoseph for those patients who don't want or need a full facelift, or patients on the go who can't find the time for a longer recovery, but desire a fresh, rejuvenated facial appearance.

The procedure offers many of the same benefits of a traditional facelift procedure by correcting sagging facial skin, neck, and jowls. This includes tightening of these areas along with underlying muscle layer for added lift, contour, and longevity of the lift.

The "QT Lift" is performed under local anesthesia with oral medications for increased comfort and quick recovery. Because smaller and fewer incisions are made, bruising and swelling are greatly reduced and many patients are able to return to work or attend social functions in just 3 to 4 days.

"The QT Mini Facelift" changed my life. I never thought I could afford a facelift nor did I have the time to take off work. I look 20 years younger and feel stronger than ever before.

Thank you Premier Image for giving me back my life and my self esteem." S.Thomas

Cost \$4200 - \$4500 Downtime 3 - 4 days.

"QT Mini Facelift

The LifeStyle Lift



A minimal-invasive facelifting procedure modified to fit the active lifestyle of the patient.

Doctors performs the Lifestyle Lift in about one-hour's time. The Lifestyle Lift is not a facelift, mini-facelift or "S-lift" but provides improvements to the skin and underlying tissue. The longevity is approximately 2 years and determined by special permanent sutures placed in key locations to hold up the muscle layer underneath the skin. The Lifestyle Lift is not a "thread lift" because excess skin can be trimmed.

Testimonial: I had a LifeStyle lift over a year ago. Although no real complications, the lift did not last. I don't look any better than before. I have seen contradictory information about how

easy it is to do a conventional facelift with the special permanent sutures still in, whether they have to be removed, how easy they are to remove after a long period of time, etc. As an example, I saw one case where a doctor would not do a facelift until after the special permanent sutures were removed, and the patient got charged \$3K just to have the special permanent sutures removed. I am fairly worried about this, **and am ANGRY at the prospect of paying thousands more to have the special permanent sutures removed after such disappointing results.**

Costs \$4200 - \$5200 Downtime 4 - 5 days

Thermage



Thermage

The method is based on the ability of radiowaves of certain frequency to penetrate and be absorbed by body tissues. The absorption of radiowaves causes tissue heating. (An essentially similar effect is used in microwave ovens where high-frequency radiowaves heat and cook food.)

The treatment produces localized heat injury of the dermis and subdermal layer as well as the collagen contraction leading to skin tightening.

So, is Thermage worth having done? While there is no universal answer, here is a number of considerations to keep in mind.

- Thermage reduces sag **far less** dramatically than any other facelifting procedure.
- If results are produced, they are **short lived**,
- Thermage may soften lines but **doesn't get rid of lines & wrinkles**.
- The procedure itself may be rather **painful and cause burns**.
- You may **develop redness, swelling, or blisters**.
- Downtime normally 2-3 days, sometimes up to a week.
- **long-term damage**, such as damage of skin texture, loss of subcutaneous fat, dryness, discoloration, & scarring?

Since Thermage is relatively new, many practitioners have limited experience. The lack of experience increases the risk of under- and overtreatment, leading to poor results and greater side effects than reported in the clinical studies. **If opting for Thermage, look for a board certified facial plastic surgeon.**

More studies are needed. If history is any indicator, it will take another ten years or more before we know all that we need to know about this method.

Cost \$3500 - 4500 Downtime 3 - 5 days.

Laser ReSurfacing



Laser resurfacing is a process where the upper layers of aged or damaged skin are vaporized by applying a controlled laser beam. The resulting healing and restructuring of the skin reduces the appearance of wrinkles. **Facial laser treatments should only be performed by board certified facial plastic physicians.**

Over the last two decades laser resurfacing (a.k.a. laser peel) has become one of the most popular procedures in cosmetic surgery. Claims of the benefits of laser resurfacing, depending on the source, range from remarkable to minimal. The dangers of laser skin resurfacing -- again, depending the source, -- range from relatively minor and infrequent to rather significant. The situation is very confusing to a person trying to decide whether to go ahead with laser resurfacing and, if yes, how to best proceed.

Most research studies agree that properly performed laser resurfacing can visibly reduce the appearance of fine lines and even deeper wrinkles. The advantages of laser over other resurfacing methods (deeps chemical peels and dermabrasion) include greater precision, less bleeding and discomfort and shorter recovery time.

Some people experience results exceeding their expectations. The results of laser resurfacing depend on the technique and skill of the surgeon and patient physiology. . Maintenance treatment with topical agents may prolong beneficial effects of laser resurfacing on the skin appearance.

Use a board certified facial plastic surgeon who performs laser treatments regularly.

Costs \$1800 - 2800 Downtime Varies.

Read on...

The Threadlift/Featherlift



The Threadlift or also termed Featherlift is normally performed under local anaesthetic.

A needle attached to a Barbed Threadlift Suture is commonly inserted into the temple through incisions in the hairline. barbed sutures are passed under the skin.

The drooping skin is lifted and then hooked to the barbed suture material. Excess skin is pushed back to the periphery. This is repeated with several Barbed Threadlift Sutures until the area of concern is lifted into place.

While in no way a 'lunchtime facelift' the recovery time is much shorter than with conventional surgery.

Doctors Opinions

Leipzig said the **ThreadLift technology is "really in its infancy.**I've spoken to colleagues and read

some early anecdotal reports that there can be complications."

That's true. Depending on how they're placed, **threads can become visible through the skin, break or pop out of the skin altogether.** Infection is a risk because an incision is made and a foreign body is being inserted.

Lukash says big problems can arise if patients go to physicians who aren't familiar with facial anatomy. Leipzig agrees. **"Anyone with a medical license can pay to take a weekend course in this procedure."**

"I had horrible results from a threadlift procedure done on my cheeks and eyebrows about two months ago. **There is heavy scarring** (looks like 'scraping') under my eyebrow, lateral end to medial end, above my eyelid and my left eyebrow **is paralyzed** (will not frown). **There is a gash like scar under my left eye.** I did have a huge hematoma that was not drained and had several 'fluid blisters.' My face looks very 'surgical' in that the upper third of cheek looks moved, the lower part seemed to 'fall' against the nasal line and I have new nasal labial fold lines which make me sick to look at because I did not have any prominent lines here before. I am 40, female with good skin. The jowls were not addressed with the threads **and now I have issues with them, looser skin.** This was a horrible procedure. I also have big lumps (diameter of a nickel) where the knots of threadlift are. MSH **Costs \$2800 - 4000 Downtime 4 - 5 Days.**

Who Will Perform Your Plastic Surgery?



In most states, a doctor licensed to practice medicine may practice in any specialty, with no requirement for education, training, certification, or experience in that specialty.

Did You Know a doctor with training in dermatology may perform heart surgery, a doctor with training in gynecology may practice psychiatry, and any doctor, from a brain surgeon to a foot surgeon may perform plastic surgery.

Read up on "How to Choose a Plastic Surgeon"

Read on...

Dr. William E Silver - In The News



PRESS RELEASE

News and Events

Feature Editorial – Brief Article

August 2006

Dr. William E Silver was honored by his peers to receive the Lester Brown Lifetime Service Award at the annual meeting of the Georgia Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, July 27, 2006, at the Cloister.

This award is given to a surgeon who has been in practice for more than twenty years, has contributed by teaching medicine, and has been involved in local and national service projects that have benefited his specialty.

Read on...



Premier Image Cosmetic & Laser Surgery, Georgia's first multi-specialty cosmetic surgery practice was founded by Triple Board Certified Facial Plastic & Reconstructive surgeon, Dr. William E. Silver in answer to his dream of bringing you a luxurious and comfortable center where all your cosmetic needs can be met by board certified doctors of facial and body plastic surgery. Premier Image offers a diversity of cosmetic facial & body plastic procedures, laser treatments for tattoo, hair, & vein removal, and an Anti-Aging Medical Spa for the ultimate in medical skin care products and services. The center is staffed by qualified personnel chosen not only for their superior certifications, but for their caring attitudes. We hope you will visit us soon.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Hames

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