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Plastic surgery of the female genitalia: Experience with over 500 procedures

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Abstract

Is this the last frontier of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery? This past decade has seen a marked rise in the desire and performance of cosmetic procedures on the female genitalia. This emerging area of interest has drawn marked criticism and controversy from both inside and outside the medical field. While the terms, standards, and procedures have yet to be established, the demands cannot be ignored. The increased incidence is a testament to the sustainability of this field suggesting that this is more than just a fad and likely here to stay. As an active researcher and contributor to the field working side by side with gynecologists, Dr. Placik discusses the evolution of this special area of practice from the unique perspective of a plastic surgeon. The elective nature of the requests and the aesthetic goals are aspects that are commonly associated with plastic surgery procedures but with novel functional considerations that are often considered taboo. The benefits of a multidisciplinary team approach are supported. Dr. Placik's history and experience and lessons learned and insights gained with over 500 surgical procedures are reviewed with a discussion of: Media Frenzy, Patterns of Growth, Patient Complaints and Requests, Patient Surveys, Demographics, Procedure Distribution and Frequency.

Biography

Otto J Placik received his medical degree, (graduating from the Honors Program in Medical Education) from Northwestern University where he also completed residencies in general and plastic and reconstructive surgery. He completed a fellowship in the aesthetic reconstruction of complex nasal and facial deformities at St. Joseph Hospital in Chicago and an additional fellowship in micro vascular surgery and tissue transplantation at Davies Medical Center, an affiliate of the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Placik is board certified as a diplomat by the American Board of Plastic Surgery, and is an active member of The American Society of Plastic Surgeons. He has been repeatedly recognized as a "Top Doctors" by Consumers' Checkbook Magazine as well as one of "America's Top Surgeons" and "America's Top Plastic Surgeons" by Consumers Research Council of America. He has performed thousands of breast enlargements in addition to body contouring and facial enhancement procedures with a special interest in female genital plastic surgery. An Assistant Professor of Plastic Surgery at Northwestern University, Dr. Placik has published over 10 articles in peer reviewed journals and has presented before international audiences. He is a recognized investigator and actively participates in research and development of emerging cosmetic innovations including FDA clinical trials and multicenter studies evaluating Aesthetic Vulvo Vaginal Aesthetic Surgery and has been granted three medical device patents with several additional patents pending.