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T&C's Directory of Top Cosmetic Surgeons in the U.S.

So you're thinking about having cosmetic surgery. Now what? Among the many things to consider, the most important—and most difficult—is your choice of doctor. It's impossible to assemble a list of the "best" aesthetic surgeons across the country; there are simply too many subjective criteria. But we've compiled a list of some of the nation's top cosmetic surgeons, to be used as one resource among many. To start with, we zeroed in on certain cities where most

of the cosmetic surgery is done and where many of our readers live. (Therefore, we necessarily and regretfully have left out many excellent doctors who happen to practice in other places.) To assemble our very selective list, then, we interviewed noted surgeons, surveyed more than 2,000 surgeons nationwide for their peer recommendations, sought out media sources across the country, acquired membership information from surgeons' professional associations, and perused teaching-hospital faculty lists. We collected our names from many different sources, because each method on its own is insufficient. We wanted to guard against both the phenomenon of doctors simply nominating their friends, and media sources choosing the physicians with the most skillful P.R. person or best sound bites.

We tried very hard not to allow this to become a popularity contest; we became aware early in the process how hard some doctors would work to get on this list. We caught many physicians voting for themselves and soliciting the votes of friends and colleagues. We developed immunities to the mountains of publicity material and phone calls we received. Having said this, we'd also like to recognize those doctors who took the high road, cooperated with integrity and thus helped us construct what we believe is the best of all possible lists. Thank you.

After we assembled our preliminary list, we whittled it down to this final, subjective number by checking board certifications, learning about the doctor's medical training, and ascertaining whether or not the physician had a history of legal or disciplinary action against him. We're well aware that we've left out hundreds—even thousands—of fine surgeons across the country. If you live in an area we haven't covered in this list, please refer to Resources (page 162) for guidance. We also know that our list may not turn up the right doctor for you. Despite all our research, it wasn't possible to go into the operating room with these doctors. And we can't tell you if you'll personally like or feel comfortable with a specific surgeon, or even if your sense of aesthetics will match his or hers. No amount of research by other people can make the perfect doctor/patient pairing for you. You'll have to visit several surgeons just to see if you "click" enough to trust them with your appearance.

That's why these names are only a starting point for anyone contemplating cosmetic surgery. One of the most powerful research tools you have is the friends and colleagues who have had cosmetic surgery and are happy with the results. If you think they look good, too, you might consider a consultation with the same surgeon. Before opting for any surgery, you should schedule appointments with at least two doctors. In addition to speaking with several of their patients, you should ask to see "before" and "after" photographs of those who have had the same procedure you are considering. The pictures will showcase work the physician is proud of, and you'll have an opportunity to determine if you share the same aesthetics. A surgeon might be considered the best there is, but if you and he don't share an opinion of what looks good, he's not the right one for you. Here, then, is the stellar roster. Remember, it is just a beginning.

You may notice that several doctors quoted in the preceding sections are not listed below. The reasons for these omissions are twofold: either the doctor is an administrator, researcher or teacher and no longer or rarely treats patients, or he practices outside the geographical areas included in this list. Houston, TX 77030; (713) 798-6141. Board certification: plastic surgery.

LOS ANGELES AREA

Robert S. Amonic, M.D. 2001 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 790 West, Santa Monica, CA 90404; (310) 829-7821. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: face

H. George Brennan, M.D. 1441 Avocado Ave., Suite 707, Newport Beach, CA 92660; (949) 644-1641. Board certification: otolaryngology

Bruce F. Connell, M.D. 2200 East Fruit St., Suite 101, Santa Ana, CA 92701; (714) 972-0666. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: face

Richard Ellenbogen, M.D. 9201 Sunset Blvd., Suite 202, Los Angeles, CA 90069; (310) 276-3183. Board certification: plastic surgery

D. Garth Fisher, M.D. 120 South Spalding Dr., Suite 222, Beverly Hills, CA 90212; (310) 273-5995. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: facelifts

Peter B. Fodor, M.D. 2080 Century Park East, Suite 710, Los Angeles, CA 90067; (310) 203-9818. Board certification: plastic surgery

Frederick Grazer, M.D. 400 Newport Center Dr., Suite 302, Newport Beach, CA 92660; (949) 644-1240. Board certification: plastic surgery

Karyn L. Grossman, M.D. 1301 20th St., Suite 460, Santa Monica, CA 90404; (310) 998-0040. Board certification: dermatology. Special focus: liposuction; fat injections; Botox and laser treatments

Steven M. Hoefflin, M.D. 1530 Arizona Ave., Santa Monica, CA 90404; (310) 451-4733. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: face

Frank M. Kamer, M.D. 201 South Lasky Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90212; (310) 556-8155. Board certification: otolaryngology. Special focus: face

Arnold W. Klein, M.D. 435 North Roxbury Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210; (310) 275-5136. Board certification: dermatology. Special focus: soft-tissue augmentation

Jeffrey A. Klein, M.D. 30280 Rancho Viejo R.d., San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675; (949) 248-1632. Board certification: dermatology; internal medicine

Gary P. Lask, M.D. 16260 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA 91436; (310) 825-6911. Board certification: dermatology. Special focus: laser surgery

Timothy A. Miller, M.D. 200 UCLA Medical Plaza, Suite 465, Los Angeles, CA 90095; (310) 825-5644. Board certification: surgery; plastic surgery. Special focus: face

Mark G. Rubin, M.D. 201 S. Lasky Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90212; (310) 556-0119. Board certification: dermatology; internal medicine

William W. Shaw, M.D. 10833 Le Conte Ave., 64-140 CHS, Los Angeles, CA 90095; (310) 206-7520. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: breast reconstruction

Jack H. Sheen, M.D.
216 West Pueblo St., Suite A,
Santa Barbara, CA 93105;
(805) 898–8888. Board certification:
plastic surgery. Special focus: nose

D. Gareth Wootton, M.D. 1301 20th St., Suite 470, Santa Monica, CA 90404; (310) 315-0222. Board certification: surgery; plastic surgery. Special focus: face

Harvey A. Zarem, M.D. 1301 20th St., Suite 470, Santa Monica, CA 90404; (310) 315-0222. Board certification: surgery; plastic surgery. Special focus: face; breast

LOUISIANA

William P. Coleman III, M.D. 4425 Conlin St., Metairie, LA 70006; (504) 455-3180. Board certification: dermatology. Special focus: liposuction; chemical peels; wrinkle fillers

Gustavo A. Colon, M.D. 4204 Teuton St., Metairie, LA 70006; (504) 888-4297. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: face; breast; liposuction

NASHVILLE

Mary K. Gingrass, M.D. 2021 Church St., Suite 806, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 340-4500. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: breast reconstruction; body contouring

G. Patrick Maxwell, M.D. 2021 Church St., Suite 806, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 340-4500. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: breast reconstruction; body contouring

William R. Ries, M.D. Vanderbilt University Medical Center, S-2100 Medical Center North, Nashville, TN 37232; (615) 343-6106. Board certification: otolaryngology. Special focus: face

NEW YORK CITY

Darrick E. Antell, M.D. 850 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 988–4040. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: breast; liposuction; face

Sherrell J. Aston, M.D. 728 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 249-6000 or 249-9000. Board certification: surgery; plastic surgery

Daniel C. Baker III, M.D. 630 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 734-9695. Board certification: plastic surgery Special focus: face

Phillip R. Casson, M.D. 800-A Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 758-6609. Board certification: surgery; plastic surgery

Stephen R. Colen, M.D. Helen Colen, M.D. 784 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 988–8900. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: face; breast Minas Constantinides, M.D. 530 First Ave., 3C, New York, NY 10016; (212) 263–5882. Board certification: otolaryngology. Special focus: face

Craig A. Foster, M.D. 850 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 744-5746. Board certification: otolaryngology; plastic surgery. Special focus: face; rhinoplasty; body contouring

Ellen Gendler, M.D. 40 East 72nd St., New York, NY 10021; (212) 288-8222. Board certification: dermatology. Special focus: Botox treatments; collagen

Roy G. Geronemus, M.D. Laser & Skin Surgery Center of New York, 317 East 34th St., Suite 11N, New York, NY 10016; (212) 686-7306. Board certification: dermatology. Special focus: dermatologic surgery

Norman Godfrey, M.D. 58 East 66th St., New York, NY 10021; (212) 628-6600. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: hair replacement; face; nose

David A. Hidalgo, M.D. 655 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 639-8991. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: face; breast

Gerald Imber, M.D. 1009 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028; (212) 472-1800. " Board certification: plastic surgery

Glenn W. Jelks, M.D. 875 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 988-3303. Board certification: ophthalmology; plastic surgery. Special focus: face; eyes

Nolan S. Karp, M.D. 530 First Ave., Suite 8Y, New York, NY 10016; (212) 263-6004. Board certification: surgery; plastic surgery. Special focus: breast

Carroll Boutell Lesesne, M.D. 620 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021; (212) 570-6318. Board certification: plastic surgery. Special focus: reconstructive surgery; facelifts; liposuction