

Informed Consent – Breast Implant Removal

General Information – Implant placed for cosmetic or reconstructive reasons may always be removed for several reasons. Implants that are damaged or ruptured should be removed once the discovery is made though there are no known health risks from leaving a ruptured implant in the body.

If done in office for a discounted fee, and a rupture is encountered, the implant will be submitted for warranty coverage (if applicable) with any recovered funds payable to Dr. Wong.

Alternative Treatments – Leaving your implants intact and not having this surgery. If saline implants are present, you could choose an intentional deflation to simply remove the volume of the implant, leaving the shell behind that could result in other complications such as palpability and extrusion.

Risks of Surgery for Breast Implant Removal:

Skin Wrinkling and Rippling – Visible and palpable wrinkling of skin may occur after implant removal. This could require additional surgery to tighten the skin envelope.

Ruptured Silicone Gel-Filled Implants – As with any man-made device placed in the body, failure can occur. It is possible that rupture of the implant could result in release of gel into the surrounding tissues. Implants can also rupture during removal. If a rupture has occurred, it may be impossible to remove every bit of silicone.

Loss of Breast Tissue – Calcifications around the implant or severe adhesions to the implant may require that the surrounding involved tissues be removed. This will result in less breast volume and smaller breasts.

Delayed Healing and Tissue Necrosis – This is possible if the removal involves resection of breast tissue with this resulting in diminished blood flow and tissue loss or delayed healing. Having had radiation therapy to the breast or use of steroids will also contribute to this potential complication as would smokers. *Smokers have a greater risk for complications.*

Change in Nipple and Skin Sensation – You could lose or experience diminished sensation to your nipples. In most instances this usually resolves on its own but it can be permanent too.

Breast Asymmetry – Contour and shape irregularities may occur. One breast could be smaller than the other and skin redundancies may detract from your breast appearance

Ptosis – Your breasts could droop after removal of the implant volume. A breast lift will be required to correct this.