

INFORMED CONSENT-ABDOMINOPLASTY SURGERY

GENERAL INFORMATION- Abdominoplasty is a surgical procedure to remove excess skin and fatty tissue from the middle and lower abdomen and to tighten muscles of the abdominal wall. Abdominoplasty is not a surgical treatment for being overweight. Obese individuals who intend to lose weight should postpone all forms of body contouring surgery until they have reached a stable weight. There are a variety of different techniques used by plastic surgeons for Abdominoplasty. Abdominoplasty can be combined with other forms of body-contouring surgery, including suction-assisted lipectomy or performed at the same time with other elective surgeries.

ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS- Alternative forms of management consist of not treating the areas of loose skin and fatty deposits. Liposuction may be a surgical alternative to abdominoplasty if there is good skin tone and localized abdominal fatty deposits in an individual of normal weight. Risks and potential complications are associated with alternative surgical forms of treatment.

SPECIFIC RISKS OF ABDOMINOPLASTY SURGERY

Change in Skin Sensation: It is common to experience diminished (or loss) of skin sensation in areas that have had surgery. Diminished (or complete loss of skin sensation) may not totally resolve after an Abdominoplasty.

Umbilicus: Malposition, scarring, unacceptable appearance or loss of the umbilicus (navel) may occur.

Pubic Distortion: It is possible, though unusual, for women to develop distortion of their labia and pubic area. Should this occur, additional treatment including surgery may be necessary.

Skin or Tissue Loss: Skin and/or tissue can be compromised during this procedure resulting in tissue loss, most commonly just above the mons/pubis area. Prolonged wound care may be necessary to allow this to resolve and scar revisions may be needed to provide a satisfactory result.