



WHERE THE EXCHANGE ON AESTHETIC PERSPECTIVE BEGINS

HOME CONTACT US ADVERTISE WITH US SUBSCRIBE / RENEW CLASSIFIEDS

SEARCH

E-mail This Page

PRINTER FRIENDLY VERSION

- Inside CST
- Home
- Current Issue
- Practice Management
- Special Reports
- Previous Issues
- News
- E-News
- Meetings
- New Products
- Clinical Articles
- Anti-Aging
- Blepharoplasty
- Body
- Breast
- Face
- Other
- Classifieds
- Career Opportunities
- Products and Services
- Classifieds Home
- Contact Sales
- Editorial Resources
- Editorial Advisory Board
- Editorial Team
- Customer Service
- Subscriptions
- Advertiser Resources
- Sales Team
- Marketing Services
- Lists
- Reprints
- Digital Ad Specs

Implant input

Methods that enlist patient participation reduce breast surgery re-ops

Oct 1, 2007
By Rochelle Nataloni
Cosmetic Surgery Times

Order Reuse Permissions
RIGHTS LINK

back

Pages | 1 | 2

"There are a lot of misconceptions about adjustable implants," he says. "First, surgeons aren't aware there are many types of adjustable implants including round, anatomical, saline, gel saline and, most recently released in Europe, a 90 percent gel adjustable implant."

Misconceptions about the availability of textured and smooth adjustable implants, and the leakage rates associated with each, have also impeded their popularity. "It is believed that adjustable implants have a higher leakage rate than average, when, in fact, they have the lowest leakage rate of any saline implant," says Dr. Becker.

"The literature shows that the leakage rate for the smooth saline implant is between 2.07 percent and 3.07 percent over a seven-year period, while the leakage rate for textured saline implants is 12.4 percent. The leakage rate for the textured Spectrum implant was 9.4 percent; however, the leakage rate on the smooth adjustable Spectrum implant over a seven-year period was just 1.09 percent. This shows that the smooth adjustable Spectrum has about half the leakage rate of the smooth saline implant," explains Dr. Becker.

The issue of minimum and maximum recommended filling volume presents much confusion as well, according to Dr. Becker. "For instance, a 325 cc adjustable Spectrum implant has a recommended minimum volume of 275 cc and a maximum fill volume of 390 cc. This means that if you take a 325 cc implant and fill it to its optimum volume where there is no rippling or wrinkling, then that is the volume of the mandril that was used to make the implant. If you take fluid out, and stop at the minimum recommended volume, rippling will be noticed. If the implant is filled to the maximum recommended filling volume of 390 cc, scalloping will be noted on the edges," explains Dr. Becker. "There is no scientific validation for these arbitrary recommended filling limits. They have not been measured in the human body," he adds.

In clinical practice, Dr. Becker points out, it is often necessary with saline implants in general and adjustable saline implants in particular to exceed the manufacturer's recommended fill volume in order to achieve the patient's desired result. "When given the opportunity to select the volume post-operatively, patients often choose volumes higher than the volume recommended by the manufacturers. So we have our patients sign a release stating that we will go beyond the recommended volume provided that they understand that there may be a theoretical increased risk of leakage. However, we have not seen an increased incidence of leakage with the saline implant nor with the adjustable implant when it is filled beyond the manufacturer's recommended maximum fill volume," he notes. (See "Study shows implants can be 'overfilled' safely.")

INPUT IMPEDIMENT? Dr. Kaplan is not a fan of the adjustable implant. He says his lack of enthusiasm for the procedure is based on the problems that can emerge from offering patients too many choices. "It opens up the possibility of patients changing their mind multiple times," says Dr. Kaplan. Dr. Becker counters that critics of the adjustable procedure tend to be those who've never tried them. "Those who use the Spectrum adjustable soon realize the immense benefit of post-operative adjustability," he maintains. "Oftentimes those who haven't tried them think it's too much of a headache because some patients will go back and forth between wanting more volume and then wanting less, and in some ways, it is a headache. But it's worth it in the long run because I have very few patients who are not happy with the size of their breasts."

While these surgeons rely on two different methods of enlisting patient input regarding breast implant size much further into the process than most, they both achieve the same outcome: fewer re-operations and satisfied patients. H

Reference



ASPS

Resetting hopes gone Hollywood

Websites For Cosmetic Surgeons



contact US