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Breast Reduction Surgery - Reduction Mammoplasty

Breast reduction surgery, also called reduction mammoplasty, breast reduction surgery is a procedure to reduce the size and weight of one or both breasts by removing breast tissue.

Potential Risks and Complications

Modern surgery is generally safe but does have the potential for risks and complications to occur.

Some possible complications and risks associated with breast reduction surgery may include:

- Surgical risks such as bleeding or infection
- Breathing difficulties due to general anaesthetic or the endotracheal tube which can cause swelling, noisy breathing and discomfort
- A blood clot in the deep veins of the legs (deep vein thrombosis), which can move to the lungs (pulmonary embolus) or to the brain and may be life threatening
- Fluid accumulation around the operation site(s)
- Allergic reaction to suture materials, tape adhesive or other medical materials and lotions
- Skin discoloration, permanent pigmentation changes, swelling and bruising
- Damage to deeper structures – such as nerves, blood vessels, muscles, and lungs – can occur and may be temporary or permanent
- Fatty tissue deep in the skin could die (fat necrosis)
- Changes in breast and nipple sensation
- Temporary or permanent areas of numbness
- Asymmetry (unevenness) of the breasts
- Potential partial or total loss of nipple and areola
- Risks of anaesthesia including allergic reaction or potentially fatal cardiovascular complications such as heart attack
- Need for further surgery to treat complications

Disclaimer: The above list is not exhaustive and other risks, complications, or outcomes may occur during or after your surgery. If you wish to discuss the potential risks and complications further, please do so at your patient consultation.

Dr. Turner is a member of the following professional organisations

