

Dr. Alexandra Turner

Plastic Surgeon MBBS BSc FRACS

MED00001125632

Skin Cancer Plastic Surgery

Surgical removal of skin cancer is typically the recommended first line of treatment for skin cancer because it holds the best chance of cure.

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 a skin cancer surgery may include:

- Heavy bleeding from an operated site
- Infection that may require treatment with antibiotics or further surgery in some cases
- Incomplete excision of the skin cancer which requires further surgery
- Wound breakdown
- Loss of skin graft or flap requiring further surgery
- Scarring of the surgical site including keloids or lumpy scar tissue, which are pink, raised and irregularly shaped. These scars may be inflamed and itchy
- Allergic reaction to sutures, dressings or antiseptic solutions
- Complications such as heart attack, pulmonary embolism or stroke may be caused by a blood clot, which can be life threatening
- Pain, bruising and swelling around the operated site(s)
- Slow healing, often related to smoking or diabetes
- Short-term nausea following general anaesthesia and other risks related to anaesthesia

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

