

Big rise in cosmetic surgery ops

There has been a big rise in the number of people opting for cosmetic surgery, new figures suggest.

The British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons recorded 22,041 procedures carried out by its members last year - up 34.6% from 2004.

The figures show that the majority of cosmetic surgery continues to be carried out on women - 19,601 procedures in 2005.

However, men now make up 11% of the total - up from just 8% in 2004.

This was recently illustrated by figures showing cosmetic surgery has enjoyed a surge in popularity among male workers in the City of London.

The top procedure for women was breast augmentation, with 5,646 carried out - a 51% rise since 2004.

Rhinoplasty - a nose job - continues to be the top procedure for men.

Anti-ageing procedures, such as facelifts, eyelid surgery and brow lifts, also showed a considerable rise in popularity in the last year.

Mr. Adam Searle, a consultant plastic surgeon and BAAPS president, said:

"These figures appear to represent a growing acceptance of aesthetic surgery, particularly in maintaining appearance with age and the number of men choosing to undergo surgery."

Qualified advice

However, Mr. Searle stressed it was important that his members promoted responsible practices.

Concern has been growing about the number of people who opt for cosmetic surgery at clinics that are not registered.

The Department of Health responded last month by launching a website to provide the public with information about the risks and benefits of cosmetic surgery - and the importance of seeking advice from a properly qualified practitioner.

Mr Douglas McGeorge, a consultant plastic surgeon and BAAPS president-elect said the rise in popularity of cosmetic surgery last year was part of a solid trend in recent years.

He said: "Evidently, the British public want to feel good about the way they look as they age.

"A growing awareness of the procedures available and their continued safety are all contributors to the popularity of cosmetic procedures.

"When performed under the right circumstances, aesthetic surgery can have a very positive psychological impact and improve a patient's quality of life."

1. Do you agree with plastic surgery?
Why or why not?
2. If you are not satisfied with your looking, will you pay for plastic surgery to change your appearance?
Why?
3. If you someone offers you the money for the surgery, which part will you change?
4. Why do women want to have double-fold eyelid and why are they willing to have a surgery?
5. What problems or sequelae does plastic surgery cause?
6. It is possible to die because of plastic surgery; will you dare to do so?
7. If one day your girlfriend or boyfriend tells you that actually she or he has done the surgery, can you accept it?
8. Why is appearance so important?
Will you judge others by their appearance?
9. If one day plastic surgery becomes painless, will you try it?
10. Will your parents let you have plastic surgery?