

Breast Implant Replacement and Revision Surgery



Mastopexy can lift the breast by repositioning the nipple and tightening the skin to provide a more youthful and attractive contour without significantly changing breast size.

Mastopexy The Breast Lift

Mastopexy is the operation designed to reposition or “lift” the breast that has become ptotic (drooping). Breast ptosis most commonly results after pregnancy and nursing or after a large weight gain and loss. The volume of breast tissue decreases leaving a skin envelope that is too large allowing the nipple and remaining breast tissue to sag much lower than normal. Once the process of sagging begins, the breast shape and contour never returns to its more erect, youthful appearance.

To reposition the nipple and breast tissue, skin incisions must be made. The excess skin must be excised and the nipple and areola moved upward to a more attractive natural position over the remaining breast tissue. This improves the chest and breast contour while maintaining breast size. Since breast ptosis usually is due to some degree of involution or shrinkage of the breast tissue, breast augmentation with an implant can be a useful adjunct to the mastopexy operation.

General anesthesia is usually required for mastopexy.

The convalescence is similar to breast augmentation and requires limited activity for three weeks and a support bra for three months.

Due to the extent of the incisions necessary for mastopexy, postoperative care must facilitate the best possible healing of the scars. It is not unusual to have a portion of the scar to heal less well and require a revision as an office procedure at a later date.

Just as in the face lift operation, where extensive incisions are necessary, every attempt is made to hide the incisions and make them as inconspicuous as possible.

Complications specifically related to mastopexy include asymmetric nipple placement, size discrepancies, especially when they existed pre-operatively, infections, scarring and loss of nipple and/or nipple sensation on a rare occasion.



Pre-op



Post-op

For cases of severe breast asymmetry multiple procedures can be performed to attain improved results. This patient had an augmentation on her right breast and a mastopexy on her left breast. The scar will continue to fade for the next 12-16 months.



Pre-op



Post-op



Pre-op



Post-op

This 34-year-old mother of four wished to improve her breast shape and symmetry. This was accomplished with a lift of both breasts and minimal reduction of the left breast. The scar will fade and continue to improve for the next 12-16 months.



Pre-op



Post-op

38 year old woman desiring more youthful appearing breasts.