

Breast Reconstruction

If your breast was removed during surgery, you may choose to have breast reconstruction to help restore the look and feel of your breast. It may be done at the time of your surgery or later. This choice will depend on your wishes and your doctor's recommendation. If you have additional treatment planned this may also affect this decision or the timing of this surgery. Answers to these questions may help you talk with your doctor about your options.

Q: What are my reconstruction options? What type do you suggest for me and why?

A:

Q: When should I have reconstruction — now or later? Why?

A:

Q: What are the short and long-term effects of the different types of reconstruction? Are there any risks or side effects I need to be aware of?

A:

Q: How many surgeries will I need?

A:

Q: How long is each surgery? How long will I be in the hospital?

A:

Q: What is the recovery process?

A:

Q: How will my reconstructed breast look and feel? How will it compare with my other breast? Will I need surgery on the other breast?

A:

Q: Are you a board-certified plastic surgeon? May I see pictures of reconstructive surgeries that you have done?

A:

Q: If breast cancer comes back, how will I know? What should I look for?

A:

Q: After reconstruction, what breast cancer screening do you recommend for me and why?

A:

Q: If I choose not to have reconstruction, what are my options? Can I use a breast prosthesis? Where can I buy them? Will insurance pay for them?

A:



For more information on breast health or breast cancer, please call our breast care helpline (1-877-465-6636) or visit our website. Susan G. Komen does not provide medical advice.

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