Male Breast Reconstruction

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Male Breast Reconstruction Overview

- Male breast reconstruction can involve multiple methods to correct deformities following a mastectomy, lumpectomy, radiation or some combination of these treatment modalities.
- Mastectomy is by far the most common surgical treatment for male breast cancer patients.
- While reconstruction can be performed at the same time as the mastectomy in some cases, it is usually performed later, after completion of all breast cancer treatment.
- Reconstructive methods include:
  - fat grafting
  - nipple reconstruction
  - scar revision
  - implants
  - tissue flaps
Fat Grafting

- Fat grafting is the most common method of reconstruction in male breast cancer patients.
- It involves removing fat (using liposuction) from one area of the body, purifying it, and re-injecting it into the reconstruction site.
- It is important to note, some of the injected fat will be reabsorbed over time and this can vary depending on the exact clinical situation.
- Patients must therefore be prepared to require more than one procedure for the best results.
Implants

- A small implant can be used to reconstruct a male breast after mastectomy.
- The implant is placed under the chest muscle in an operating room setting.
- Since the aesthetics of the male breast are usually quite different to the female breast, the best implant is often a custom silicone implant or pec implant.
Tissue Flaps

- Some patients may require a more extensive type of mastectomy with removal of breast skin
- In these situations, tissue from the back (latissimus flap) can be used to reconstruct the soft tissue and skin defect.
- In very rare cases, other tissue flaps can also be used depending on the size of reconstruction required.
Scar Revision

- Scar revision can improve the appearance of breast surgery scars after mastectomy or lumpectomy, and can help reduce discomfort from severe scarring or scar tethering to the chest wall.
- Scar revision can also help improve chest contour defects, particularly when combined with fat grafting.
Nipple Reconstruction

- Nipple reconstruction can be performed on its own or in conjunction with any other reconstructive procedure.
- Although there are many ways to perform nipple reconstruction, the bow-tie method, which gets its name from the bow-tie shaped incision, is the preferred method at PRMA.
- When performed alone, nipple reconstruction can be completed in the office setting under local anesthetic.
- The nipple and areola are later tattooed for a more natural appearance. 3D tattooing after nipple reconstruction provides the most natural looking results.
Tattooing

- Various forms of tattooing can be performed, either alone or in conjunction with other reconstructive procedures. These include:
  - A nipple-areola tattoo (2D or 3D), either alone or in conjunction with nipple reconstruction
  - A decorative tattoo including the entire surgical site
  - Regardless of the type of tattoo, patients should seek out artists with the appropriate licensing and experienced in tattooing over surgical sites and scars.
Questions & Answer

For future questions or comments:
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