

## Breast Enlargement (Augmentation Mammoplasty)



**Description:** Technically known as "augmentation mammoplasty," breast augmentation is designed to surgically enhance breast size with breast implants. It can correct a reduction in breast volume after pregnancy, help balance a difference in size, or implemented as a reconstructive technique following breast surgery. Breast augmentation is usually performed using saline-filled breast implants, but consult with your doctor regarding the use of silicone implants as recently approved by the FDA in 2005.

**Length:** 1 hour or more.

**Side Effects:** Temporary soreness, swelling, change in nipple sensation and bruising. Breast sensitive to stimulation for several weeks.

**Recovery:**

Back to work: 3 to 7 days.

More strenuous activity: 2 to 3 weeks.

Swelling and bruising: 3 to 6 months.

**Risks:** Lack of implant permanence – surgical removal or replacement of the implants may be required to treat problems, including: deflation; the formation of scar tissue around the implant (known as capsular contracture), which may cause the breast to feel tight or hard; bleeding or infection. Increase or decrease in sensitivity of nipples or breast skin, occasionally permanent. Mammography may require a special technique. Note: Some women have reported symptoms similar to those of immune disorders. Ask your doctor about these and other FDA concerns.

**Results:** Variable. Implants may eventually require removal or replacement.

**Technology:** To hide scarring, the surgeon can insert implants through an incision in the armpit, through the areola or where the bottom of the breast meets the chest.

Some surgeons use a technique known as Tran umbilical Breast Augmentation (TUBA), in which implants are inserted through the belly button via an endoscope.

**Patient Status:** Inpatient 1 – 2 days

**Anesthesia:** General