

## COSMETIC SURGERY PAYMENT POLICY

Patients often have questions about the fees and payment process for cosmetic surgery procedures. By definition, the costs of cosmetic surgery are NOT covered by insurance companies or other third party payers, and patients are responsible for these costs themselves. The following information is meant to answer your questions about paying for cosmetic surgery and should help you become a more informed consumer. We encourage you to compare our fees with other board certified plastic surgeons providing similar services. Our goal is to provide superior care at a reasonable price.

Cosmetic surgery is often something that you “want,” not something that you “need.” It is most often an elective procedure. The cost of your procedure will be quoted as accurately as possible, but there may be additional costs that are not foreseen. Dr. Lundquist has control of his professional fee, but he does not control the costs of anesthesia, the hospital, the laboratory, and others. We will always be willing to work with you if there are problems, but you need to take a responsible financial attitude into this kind of surgery. This is especially true if complications develop. Is it smart to “go into debt” for this kind of surgery? You must answer that question for yourself.

1. The cost of the initial **cosmetic** surgery consultation is complimentary. In many cases, however, the initial visit is more directed toward diagnosing a problem, examining an abnormal structure, and laying out the options, risks, and benefits of treatment. Only after this entire consultation is it possible to decide if the procedure is cosmetic or not. In these cases, the costs of that consultation are “medically necessary,” and will be submitted to insurance.
2. Follow-up cosmetic surgery visits are also complimentary and will not be submitted to insurance.
3. All fees quoted for cosmetic surgery are considered “cash,” in-advance payments and reflect a discount from ordinary charges by surgeon, facility, anesthesia, etc.
4. In some cases financial arrangements can be made for payments over time. This involves Dr. Lundquist’s professional fee only. As above, we do not have any control over the fees charged by the hospital, anesthesia, etc. Most patients who need to pay over an extended time use a credit card that they already have.
5. Quotes for procedures usually include the costs of the facility, the anesthesia, and the surgeon’s fee. These are most often based on a time factor, and we use information supplied to us by the facilities, anesthesia departments, etc. This information may change without our knowledge.
6. In most cases, *unless you have been specifically informed otherwise*, the surgeon’s fee for your cosmetic surgery is due 2 weeks (10 business days) before your scheduled procedure. If full payment is not received, your surgery will be cancelled so that someone else can use that surgical time.

7. Payments for in-office cosmetic surgery procedures (chemical peels, Restylane or other “filler” injections, sclerotherapy, etc.) are due on the day of service and cannot be billed.
8. Most surgical patients require pre-operative evaluations, laboratory testing, x-rays, and other tests that are completed before surgery. The fees quoted do not include these charges. These pre-operative items may be covered under your normal health insurance when they are provided by your primary care doctor.
9. Some cosmetic surgery procedures will utilize special garments or other bandages. These costs are not included in the general quotation.
10. We cannot give you detailed information about tax issues regarding cosmetic surgery or advise whether a “pre-paid” health account you may have at work will cover the costs of surgery. You will have to check with your own resources to answer these questions.
11. Costs for additional surgery are not included in the initial quotation unless specifically identified for your particular case. Cosmetic surgery, like all surgery, entails risks, and there may be complications or other unexpected outcomes. Dr. Lundquist is dedicated to achieving a satisfactory result, but, unfortunately, he cannot give any guarantees. He will make every effort to be reasonable and fair regarding payments, especially when the unexpected does occur. For example, he can control his professional fee for revision procedures, but the costs of the facility and anesthesia will be additional.
12. If you have any questions about your quotation for cosmetic surgery or the payment process, please contact the office, and we will be glad to answer your questions or concerns.