

Procedures

Facial implants

What are the issues?

Occasionally, certain areas of the face can lack projection or prominence. For example a small chin can accentuate the nose, while relative flatness of the cheek bones may be seen as unattractive.

What are the options?

The most commonly used facial implants are solid silicone implants and a porous polyethylene material known as Medpor™

Chin implants are inserted via an incision inside the mouth. Cheek implants may be inserted via the mouth or at the time of facelift surgery.

What can the procedures achieve?

Flat cheek bones may, in some circumstances, require complex facial reconstructive surgery to augment the area. However, subtle deficiencies in the cheek bones may be disguised by injection of soft tissue fillers or fat transfer. Occasionally, the preferred solution is to insert a synthetic implant to achieve the desired augmentation.

For an underdeveloped chin, a small synthetic implant may provide a relatively simple and satisfying solution. Alternative strategies include advancing a portion of the jawbone to enhance the profile. Operations such as genioplasty (moving the chin forward) or mandibular advancement may require complex orthodontic (dental) planning. This surgery is more commonly undertaken by maxillofacial specialists. We are happy to see and advise you, and will involve our colleagues as required.

For a flat nose or a partial ear deficiency, we generally prefer to use grafts of cartilage or bone taken from elsewhere in your body. The use of synthetic materials in the nose or ear is more likely to be associated with extrusion or infection of the foreign body.

What are the limitations and risks?

With any permanent implant, there is a small risk of infection. If an implant becomes infected, it will often have to be removed to allow the infection to settle. Implants may also migrate, even if initially fixed into position. In some cases, it may be possible to feel the edge of the implant beneath the skin.

Particularly in the context of chin enhancement, the implant may cause some erosion of the underlying bone over time due to the effect of pressure.

Contact Us

For information and appointments please contact us and we will be happy to help.

t: 0844 939 6363

f: 01506 602632

e: info@beyou.co.uk

w: www.beyou.co.uk