THE RIGHT CHOICE

It is common for prospective patients considering plastic surgery to interview several surgeons before making a decision. Such comparison is a valuable process. To enable you to compare "apples" with "apples" and not "oranges," we provide the following worksheet. Complete it for each surgeon and facility you consider. Verify safety and certification factors which insure your ultimate protection. Small differences in fee quotations between surgeons may actually represent major differences in your safety--both during surgery and in the recovery room. Should an emergency occur you'll want to know the medical team has the skills and equipment needed. The importance of having a highly-qualified medical team and a certified facility cannot be overestimated.

SURGEON:

■ **Name:**_____

Board Certified in:_____ Call (800) 776-2378 to verify through the American Board of Medical Specialties.

ANESTHESIA:

■ ☐ MD Anesthesiologist ☐ Certified Nurse Anesthetist

☐ Surgeon and Nurse (RN?) ☐ Surgeon Only

SURGERY FACILITY:

■ **Accreditation:** ☐ Medicare ☐ State ☐ AAAASF

☐ AAAHC _____

(Ask to see the Operating Room and Recovery Room.)

OPERATING ROOM:

■ **Monitoring in the operating room:**

☐ EKG ☐ Pulse Oximetry ☐ Blood Pressure

☐ Capnograph (CO2)

RECOVERY ROOM:

■ **Monitoring in the recovery room:**

☐ EKG ☐ Pulse Oximetry ☐ Blood Pressure

■ **Who will be present in the recovery room with you?**_____

☐ Degree: RN? ☐ CPR current?

☐ Advanced Cardiac Life Support current?

Does that person have other responsibilities elsewhere in the office at the same time? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(The highest levels of certification require a Registered Nurse (R.N.) who has current CPR and Advanced Cardiac Life Support certifications; the R.N. should not have any other duties while a patient is in the Recovery Room).

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:

■ **How does the surgery facility handle a medical emergency?**

(Make sure the facility has a "crash cart" with the medications and equipment to handle a life-threatening emergency.)

☐ Yes ☐ No

■ **Does the surgeon have transfer privileges at a nearby hospital?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

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