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## TOP QUESTIONS to Ask During a Consultation

- **Are your physicians certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery?**  
To become certified in a plastic surgery, a physician must be Board Certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery (ABPS) and complete additional training as specified by the Member Board.
- **How many years of plastic surgery training have you had?**  
Properly trained and certified surgeons must have completed at least five years of ABPS approved surgical training with a minimum of three years in plastic surgery.
- **Is your surgical suite on-site? Is it accredited?**  
An accredited facility is one that must meet strict national standards for equipment, operating room safety, personnel and surgeon credentials. Ask for specific accreditation names and verify the accreditation status through [aaaasf.org](http://aaaasf.org).
- **Do you have hospital privileges to perform this procedure? If so, at which hospital?**  
Regardless of the location of the surgical facility, your surgeon and anesthesiologist should have approved hospital privileges for the procedure and should be certified by the American Board of Medical Specialties, such as the American Board of Plastic Surgery or the American Board of Anesthesiology.
- **What emergency plans and equipment are in place to provide for my needs in the event of an emergency?**  
Despite thorough training of physicians and staff and accreditation of facilities, emergencies can occur during an office procedure. Emergency plans must be in place and be able to be activated immediately. Carilion Cosmetic Center is accredited and fully equipped with a life-saving AED, crash card and medication required to treat a patient within the first thirty minutes of a medical emergency. In addition, all of our surgeons have unrestricted hospital privileges in order to transport you and continue your care in a hospital setting.

- **Who administers the anesthesia?**

At our facility, anesthesia is administered by a board-certified or board-eligible anesthesiologist or certified nurse anesthetist. The person providing anesthesia should have no responsibilities during the procedure other than to administer anesthesia and monitor the patient. In other words, your surgeon should not administer anesthesia and perform the surgery.

- **What will happen during my procedure, start to finish?**

Your surgical team should discuss each step of your procedure for clarity prior to your procedure.

- **Do you have before and after pictures to share?**

Some surgeons use computer simulation images to project what you might look like after surgery. Note that these images represent an ideal goal and do not guarantee your outcome, skill of the surgeon, or serve as a warranty of your surgery. Images and diagrams facilitate communication between you and your surgeon, helping you to understand one another's opinions and preferences. They also may be used to demonstrate potential incision sites.

- **Where will my family be while I am in surgery?**

Approved family names and contact information should be given to your surgical team prior to your procedure. Family members will have a secluded, comfortable waiting area for the duration of your surgery.

- **Do you have an aesthetician on-site for non-surgical cosmetic procedures?**

Carilion Cosmetic Center offers aesthetic consultations with a medical aesthetician for any surgical or non-surgical candidate.