



Upper Cape Ear, Nose & Throat, PC

Douglas G. Mann, M.D., F.A.C.S

Diplomate, American Board of Otolaryngology

Diplomate, American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Q&A ON FAT TRANSPLANTATION

What is it?

Your own fat, obtained with small blunt needles from a fatty area under the skin in the abdomen, buttocks or legs. The material is carefully prepared to keep the fat cells alive for return to the body.

What can it do?

Fat can restore the volume to areas of your face that have lost it, and can soften many of the changes associated with the aging process

How is it administered?

The fat is injected through very narrow blunt needles that are introduced through very small incisions in the skin. The fat is deposited in very small amounts with each advance, leaving small fat droplets to create a smooth, even effect.

How much does it cost?

Price depends upon the amount of fat to be harvested, and the number of areas being treated, as well as other procedures that may be done at the same sitting. Generally the procedure will cost \$4000 - \$6000.

Where and how is the procedure done?

The procedure is usually done in an OR setting with an anesthesiologist in attendance, so you should sleep throughout the procedure. An extensive fat grafting procedure may take several hours. Occasionally, for very minor touch-ups, the procedure can be done entirely under local anesthesia in the office.

How long does healing take?

Because there are so many passes of the blunt needle involved, there is usually bruising and swelling that takes a week or two to resolve.

200A Jones Rd, Falmouth, MA 02540

Tel. 508.540.0900

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Snoring and Sleep Apnea ~ Facial Plastic Surgery

www.uppercapeENT.com



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How long does the effect last?

About 75-90% of the fat will survive. The duration of survival depends in part on the location of the injection. The more animated the area, the sooner it resorbs. Fat will stay in the cheeks and the lower jaw area for years. Fat placed in the lips will disappear. Fat cells are alive. If you gain weight, the fat cells will grow. If you diet and lose weight, the fat cells will shrink as well. For this reason, very skinny people should not have this procedure.

What can go wrong?

Over-correction - which will cause lumps where there should not be any - is the worst complication, and thankfully very uncommon. In an effort to avoid this complication, though, we may under-correct your face. Better a small improvement than a big problem. Rarely, infections can occur. Asymmetry can be a problem, as some of the fat may survive better than some other areas.

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