

PLEASE BRING THIS FORM WITH  
YOU TO THE HOSPITAL.



# Breast Implant Removal and/or Replacement Consent Form

## Section 1: Surgery

You have requested Doctor Konrat to perform the following surgery:

\_\_\_\_\_

This is a legal requirement, and Dr Konrat needs to have your consent to operate on you.

To give your consent, you need to be informed of the risks as well as the options & alternatives to surgery. Dr Konrat has explained these during your consultation.

If you are uncertain about anything in this form, please call Brisbane Cosmetic Clinic on 07 3391 5710 to ask a question or make an appointment for another consultation.

## Third Party Consent

A training Doctor or Surgeon or other third party may be required to attend your surgery. You will be informed of this prior to your procedure.

Tick Yes, if you consent for a third-party person to be present.

Tick No if you do NOT wish to have a training Doctor or Surgeon to be present at your surgery.

Yes  No

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Signature

## Breast Implant Removal and/or Replacement Procedure

This requires the following procedure, which usually takes between 2 and 3 hours:

- **Incisions** are carefully placed, with the aim being to hide them in the creases under the breasts or in an existing scar. If a breast lift is performed following removal of your breast implants, then there will be a scar around the areolae and a vertical scar from the midpoint of the areolae extending downwards to the crease of the breast. There is sometimes a horizontal scar in the crease of the breast.
- **A pocket or space** is entered to access the breast implant so it can be removed.
- **Capsule and scar tissues:** The fibrous capsule and/or scar tissues as well as scar tissue containing silicone are removed where possible. Where possible, the Pectoralis muscle is repaired and sutured into its approximate anatomical position.
- **Scars:** the tissues are closed in layers to promote healing. In rare cases, where extensive surgery is required, V.A.C therapy may be commenced to improve and accelerate wound healing.
- **Drain tubes:** May or may not be placed into the space where the implant, fibrous implant capsule and scar tissue has been removed.
- **Replacement breast implants:** If possible following removal of breast implants, new implants may be placed in the same space. Alternatively, a new anatomical space is created into which the implants are placed.

Dr Konrat has explained to you that to perform this surgery, it must be performed in an accredited and licensed Hospital and a general anaesthetic will be necessary. The general anaesthetic will be administered by a doctor who is a specialist Anaesthetist.

## Section 2: Risks and Complications

You should not undertake surgery unless you accept the possibility that you may wish to have, or need to have, further surgery at some time in the future. If further procedures or surgery were required due to complications, there would be out-of-pocket expenses. These would include the hospital and specialist anaesthetist fees, and if new breast implants are required, you will also be charged for new implants.

Further operations may occasionally be requested to achieve the results desired. In this case, the out-of-pocket expenses may include surgical fees.

Dr Konrat has explained that there are specific risks associated with your surgery, and these include:

- **Bleeding or Haematoma, Blood Clot:** A bruised appearance and some swelling is usual and varies with each patient from being mild to being so severe that a blood clot collects, which may need to be removed back in the operating theatre. This is called a haematoma and is a collection of blood in the space where surgery has been performed, causing pressure, pain and bruising. Many blood vessels are cut and then sealed during a surgery of this nature and it can take up to a week for these blood vessels to permanently seal. Rest with gentle walking is recommended in the first week to aid this healing process.

## Section 2: Risks and Complications cont'd

- **Infection:** Antibiotics are given during the operation, and you will be prescribed oral antibiotics to take afterwards. This will minimise the risk of infection. Nevertheless, infections can occur and are treated as required. Pathology testing may be required to treat infection effectively. All pathology expenses are the responsibility of the patient. If the infections are severe, this may involve being admitted to hospital for intravenous antibiotics and further drainage procedures. Further surgery may also be required, including removal of the implants. However, post-operative whole breast and implant or wound infection is very rare.
- **Seroma formation:** Seroma is a collection of fluid that occurs in the first 3 weeks post-operatively. Your body produces this fluid to help you heal. Some people produce a little and some produce a lot. If you produce too much seroma, then this fluid is drained or aspirated during your post-operative visits at the clinic. Too much protein-rich seroma can increase the risk of infection. Draining this fluid may reduce the risk of infection and aid healing. Aspiration of seroma is routinely carried out in the clinic. This is not a painful procedure and takes less than 20 minutes at your post-operative visit.
- **Wound breakdown** and delay in wound healing: this occurs due to a number of factors such as infection and seroma. If needed, a special dressing to accelerate healing may be required. This is called V.A.C. therapy.
- **V.A.C. Therapy:** This is a special dressing applied to the surgical wound to prevent post-operative complications after surgery. This special dressing is attached to a small portable battery-operated unit that provides negative pressure to the wound to promote greatly increased healing and to remove excess fluid or blood.
- The therapeutic benefits of negative pressure wound therapy include reduction in bacterial load, an increase in blood flow to the surgical wound and stimulation of new tissue formation. The negative pressure device has a discreet and ergonomic design allowing patients to continue treatment while carrying on with their daily life. If, in the unusual circumstance that V.A.C. therapy is required after the first week post-operatively due to infection or wound problems, there is a fee of \$450 per week for the hire of the equipment and the required specialised surgical dressings.
- **Scarring:** The incision or cut will result in scar formation. The scars are usually pink to start with, will generally fade and become white, soft and supple over the coming weeks or months. Most patients find the scars ultimately acceptable and not a concern. Keloid and hypertrophic scars are rare and are the result of a thickening, inflammatory process which occurs in normal scar tissue. These are not due to a surgical fault, but due to an abnormality of the patient's healing process.
- **Numbness:** It is usual to have some numbness in the breasts after having breast implants removed and/or replaced. This is due to some sensory nerves being affected during removal of fibrous scar tissue or the preparation of the 'pockets', or space into which the breast implant is inserted. The numbness is usually fully recovered within 9 to 12 months; however, it can be permanent. Rarely, and in the worst case, permanent numbness of both nipples could occur.
- **Post-operative discomfort** will occur. It varies from moderate to mild on the first day. It gradually improves over the coming days. The pain is usually well tolerated by patients if they take the pain relief prescribed.
- **Increasing pain**, unresponsive to medication, should be brought to the attention of Dr Konrat, as this may be an indication that complications are developing.

## Section 2: Risks and Complications cont'd

- It is common to have **intermittent mild discomfort** or sometimes intermittent sharp pains in the first weeks and months following surgery as the swelling resolves and the nerves recover. Some patients experience a temporary increase in sensitivity of the nipples. This can be unpleasant, but typically settles down after a few weeks.
- **Stitches:** Rarely, the stitches used to close the incision may be felt through the skin. This is usually not a problem but can be removed if necessary.
- **Thin tissues, asymmetry of breast size and shape:** Following the removal of breast implants, capsulectomy and removal of scar tissue the breasts may appear thin, droopy or sunken. It can take 9 – 12 months for the skin and tissues of the breasts to heal, and then remodel. They will change significantly and improve in appearance over this period. It has been explained that the initial results following surgery may be concerning and that healing time and remodeling time are important before considering any further revision surgeries.
- **Breast Implant Illness Syndrome:** Your own immune system may react either to the surface of the implant, or to the naked silicone gel if the implant has ruptured. It is now recognised that this can cause a range of symptoms called Breast Implant Illness syndrome. This syndrome is not yet a medically classified disease process, but removal of breast implants along with the fibrous capsule surrounding the implant is recommended, especially if the implant is ruptured and or there are symptoms of being unwell. It has been explained to you that removal of your breast implants may not improve the symptoms experienced or reported.

## Risks related to Anaesthesia & Sedation

Dr Konrat has also explained that there are general risks associated with any operation, including the following:

- Aspiration
- High temperature
- Incomplete anaesthesia
- Rash
- Anaphylaxis
- Unknown reaction to medications
- Allergy
- Difficulty breathing
- Lung secretions causing chest infection post- operatively
- **DVT:** Clot in leg veins. May cause leg swelling and pain in the calf muscles. Clots may travel to the lungs causing severe breathing difficulty and rarely, death. With adequate precautions, which are routinely taken, including medications, compression stockings and early mobilisation, these complications are extremely uncommon.

## Section 3: Patient Consent

### Consent for Removal, and/or replacement of Breast Implants

- **Disclosure:** Dr. Konrat and her staff have fully informed me regarding my surgery. I have also read and I understand the Pre/ Post-Operation Instruction sheet.
- **Procedure:** I understand what procedure I am having and the extent of the surgery that has been planned.
- **Questions:** I have had a chance to ask all the questions I have requested and have been satisfied with the answers given. I am free to ask questions at any time. I have no further questions at this time.
- **Options:** The Options, including no surgery have been fully disclosed and I fully understand them.
- **Risks:** The risks have been fully disclosed and I completely understand and accept these risks, including, but not limited to those in Section 2. Dr Konrat has explained to me that sometimes during surgery it is discovered that additional or other surgery is needed to achieve the desired results. Life-threatening incidents will be treated at my doctor's discretion.
- I understand that every individual heals differently.
- I understand that variable blood supply may hamper proper healing.
- I understand that activities I perform may damage the procedure performed and that strict adherence to my post-op instructions is critical.
- I understand that scarring from reaction to stitches, infections, and/or Keloids may occur and that all scars may not be hidden from view, or may be more prominent, depending on the healing process.
- Revision surgery may be needed to achieve the desired look and appearance and may incur further operating theatre or surgical fees. I understand that revision may not be able to accomplish the cosmetic goals I am seeking.
- I understand that consultations and revisions performed by other surgeons are my financial responsibility.
- I understand that Dr Konrat does not guarantee that she will be able to achieve the results I am seeking. No guarantees have been implied or given.
- I understand that I must be discharged into the care of a responsible adult, and that this person must stay with me overnight.
- Since this is an elective procedure, I have had the chance to research other surgeons and surgical approaches.
- The options of care have been fully discussed, such as outside consultations and surgery, no surgery, expectant management (wait and see), medical management, or to proceed with the agreed-upon procedure. I have chosen to proceed with the elective procedure willingly and without hesitation at the time frame of my choosing.

## Photography / Video Film Release

- I understand that Dr Konrat needs to take photographs of the treatment area (neck to hip-bone) from several angles as part of evaluating the outcome of the surgery. I consent to the taking of these pictures.

Initial here: \_\_\_\_\_

- In addition, I voluntarily consent to the publication and use of my pre and post-surgery pictures and/or video footage by Dr Konrat or her RN for the following purposes: educational, medical publications, journals, research papers and medical conference presentations. In the case of Breast surgery, this will not include my face.

Initial here: \_\_\_\_\_(Please put a line through any exclusions.)

## Declaration by Patient

I acknowledge that Dr Konrat has provided me with information concerning the procedure, the likely results, available alternative treatments, including the option of no treatment at all, and has answered all my specific queries and concerns about my procedure.

I understand that some of the above risks are more likely if I smoke, am overweight, diabetic, have high blood pressure or have had previous heart disease.

I also understand that some of the above risks are more likely if I choose not to follow all post-operative instructions.

I understand that improvement, not perfection, is the aim of this procedure. Complications may develop and a further procedure may be required to improve the result.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

In signing the consent for Breast Implant Removal surgery, I acknowledge that I have been informed about its risks and consequences and accept responsibility for the clinical decisions that were made, along with the financial costs of all future treatments.

## Financial Consent

I understand that the cost of surgery involves several charges for the services provided, and these have been itemised in the formal quotation I received prior to booking this surgery. I am aware that the total includes fees charged by Dr Konrat as my surgeon, the Day Surgery fee (if that is applicable), the specialist Anaesthetist fees, and in some instances, laboratory tests.

The fees charged for this procedure do not include any potential future costs for additional procedures that I might require or elect to have to revise, optimise or complete my outcome. Additional costs may occur, should complications develop from the surgery. Secondary surgery or hospital day surgery charges involved with revision surgery will be my responsibility.

## Section 4: Declaration by Dr Konrat

I declare that I have personally explained the nature of the patient's condition, the need for treatment, the procedure to be performed, and the risks and alternatives outlined above.

I have given the patient, or the person named above an opportunity to ask questions, which I have answered as comprehensively as possible to the best of my knowledge.

---

Dr Georgina Konrat  
Bsc (Melb), Bsc Syd (Hons), MBBS (Syd) FACCSM

---

Date