

## **LIPOFILLING IN THE GENITAL AREA.**

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Lipofilling in the genital area always needs to be considered within the broader context of ‘Genital Plastic Surgery’.

This encompasses in the first place the more ‘*reconstructive*’ procedures such as for intersex conditions or diseases of sex development (DSD), transsexualism, or for reconstructions after trauma or after oncologic resection. In many of these reconstructive procedures, e.g. after gender reassignment surgery both for male-to-female as well as female-to-male transsexuals, additional aesthetic corrections can be required at a later stage using the technique of liposuction and/or lipofilling,

More recently however, a strong increase in interest has been noticed in ‘*genital cosmetic surgery*’ which is becoming one of the fastest growing areas within plastic surgery. More and more patients see genital rejuvenation and enhancement as a relatively easy way to boost their self-confidence and enhance their sex lives.

For the female patient the most commonly performed aesthetic procedure is the labiaplasty with a reduction of the labia minora sometimes combined with a clitoral hood reduction. This technique will be discussed. Vaginal rejuvenation (with ‘tightening’ of the vaginal tissues) can increase friction during intercourse and can enhance intimacy. In certain patients a pubic lift and/or liposuction can also be indicated and if necessary combined with a filling of the labia majora. G-spot amplification with injections of collagen, hyaluronic acid or even lipofilling is much more controversial with few if any evidence.

For the male patient, ‘penile dysmorphism’ or the perception of penile inadequacy, is the major indication for genital cosmetic surgery. Penile enhancement can consist of penile lengthening and/or penile widening/augmentation. Penile elongation can be achieved in three ways (which are usually combined): pubic liposuction, advancing of the abdominal skin (V-Y) and releasing the suspensory ligament of the penis. The results are often considered limited. Penile thickening can be obtained with implants, or with fat-dermis graft (recently with Aloderm) or with the lipofilling technique. The pro’s and con’s of each technique are provided as well as tricks and refinements for a successful augmentation of the penis.