

NOTES FROM YOUR

# PLASTIC SURGEON

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## FOR APPEARANCE SAKE

Body image after breast cancer is often regarded as a concern of younger women. Some past studies have suggested that older women are not as worried about what they will look like after having a breast or breast tissue removed. However, a new study indicates that older women (aged 67 years and older) who undergo surgery for breast cancer often worry about their appearance afterward. The study also goes on to say that getting the treatment that best meets these concerns may improve their long-term wellbeing. With this in mind, female breast cancer patients of all ages should discuss breast-reconstruction options with plastic surgeons in advance of having mastectomies. There are a variety of treatments available.

If you think that you might want to have breast reconstruction, it is

a good idea to discuss this with your surgeon before your initial operation. You do not have to make a definite decision at this early stage, but if there is some change that you might want reconstruction, it will help the surgeon to determine the way he or she carries out your surgery. To schedule a consultation for this procedure, contact 205-5750. I am board certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Plastic Surgery. My office is located in the Mentor Medical Campus, 9485 Mentor Ave., Suite 100, Mentor.

*P.S. Breast reconstruction surgery can be performed immediately after mastectomy or after a waiting period of weeks or months.*

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