The Complete Guide
to the Institute for Advanced Reconstruction
& The Plastic Surgery Center

www.advancedreconstruction.com
www.looknatural.com
The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction offers world-class reconstructive treatments, from new advances in nerve reconstruction for paralysis to state-of-the-art, more natural methods of breast reconstruction. Patients from across the country and around the globe come to the New Jersey based practice.

The physicians of The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction are some of the only ones nationwide, and in some cases worldwide, to perform certain life-altering surgeries, including complex nerve decompressions and nerve transplants. The physicians have been extensively published in medical journals and have presented at numerous medical conferences. Each doctor has been featured on several platforms of local, national and international media.

**Selected treatments include:**

- Brachial Plexus Reconstruction
- Treatment for Peripheral Neuropathy
- Phrenic Nerve Injury Treatment
- Spinal Cord Injury Treatment
- Stroke Treatment
- Foot Drop Treatment
- Treatment for Diaphragm Paralysis
- Diaphragm Pacemaker for Ventilator Dependency
- Nerve Decompression Surgery for Headaches
- Treatment for Chronic Joint Pain
- Hand Nerve/Carpal Tunnel Surgery
- Nerve Reconstruction for Swallowing Disorders
- Prostate Reconstruction to Preserve Erectile Function
- Breast Reconstruction
- Reconstruction of Hand, Arm, Leg, Cleft Lip and Palate
- Orbital Decompression to Treat Graves Ophthalmopathy
- Chronic Pudendal Neuralgia Treatment
About The Plastic Surgery Center

At the Plastic Surgery Center, the physicians and staff pride themselves on providing personalized care in a comfortable, friendly setting. They use the most advanced equipment available to provide safe, natural looking results. Their ambulatory surgical center is New Jersey State Licensed and Medicare Accredited by AAAASF. The physicians have been featured on national media, including *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, CNN, Fox News, CBS, ABC, *The Learning Channel*, *The Discovery Channel* and *Forbes Magazine* as well as on a myriad of local news programs and newspapers.

The practice is distinguished by the outstanding training and backgrounds of the plastic surgeons. Among them, the team of doctors has more than 50 years of combined experience performing facial, skin, and body cosmetic surgery. They offer cutting-edge cosmetic and reconstructive procedures and have developed a number of innovative surgical techniques offered at few other facilities in the world.

The advanced equipment and techniques offered by The Plastic Surgery Center include lasers for skin resurfacing, endoscopes for brow lifts and face lifts, power-assisted liposuction for safer procedures, and many other state-of-the-art technologies and procedures. Anesthesia is administered by physicians fully trained in the latest delivery methods.

**Selected treatments include:**

- **Breast** Augmentation, Reduction, Lift, Reconstruction, Correction
- **Face** Brow Lift, Eyelid, Nose, Face Lift, Fillers, Neck Lift
- **Body** Tummy Tuck, Liposuction, Body Lift, Upper-Arm Lift, Thigh Lift, Post-Bariatric
- **Skin** Laser Skin Resurfacing, Chemical Peels, Microdermabrasion, Waxing, Lip Enhancement Fillers, Botox® Cosmetic
- **Veins** Treatment for Varicose Veins, Reticular Veins, Spider Veins, other Venous Conditions
- **Hair** Replacement, Transplant

*(Statistics on Back)*
Cosmetic Plastic Surgery Facts & Figures

- There were 15.1 million cosmetic procedures performed in the United States in 2013.

- The largest age group getting cosmetic procedures were 40-54 years old (7 million).

- $12.6 billion was spent on cosmetic procedures in 2013, up 15% from the previous year.

- Restorative or reconstructive plastic surgery is covered by insurance.

- Two-thirds of plastic surgery patients are repeat customers.

- The Top 5 Cosmetic Surgical Procedures in 2013 were:
  - Breast Augmentation (290,000)
  - Nose reshaping (221,000)
  - Eyelid surgery (216,000)
  - Liposuction (200,000)
  - Facelift (133,000)

Source: American Society of Plastic Surgeons
At A Glance

A Unique Practice

Eight physicians distinguished by their outstanding training and experience in a variety of innovative reconstructive procedures and advanced cosmetic techniques collectively formed The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction and The Plastic Surgery Center. They are internationally recognized as leaders in their fields and serve a variety of patients from around the world who seek their medical expertise.

The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction at The Plastic Surgery Center

535 Sycamore Avenue
Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702
tel: 732-741-0970
fax: 732-747-2606

Center for Outpatient Surgery

1 Executive Dr, Suite 10
Tinton Falls, NJ 07701

Locations for both practices:

- 535 Sycamore Avenue
  Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
- 525 Route 70 East, Suite 2A
  Brick, NJ 08723
- 106 Court House South Dennis Road
  Building 200, Suite 200
  Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
- 192 Summer Hill Road
  East Brunswick, NJ 08816
- 98 James Street, Suite 103
  Edison, NJ 08820
- 2500 English Creek Avenue
  Building 600, Suite 605
  Egg Harbor Twp, NJ 08234
- 138 Route 9, Suite B
  Forked River, NJ 08731
- Juniper Business Plaza
  3499 Route 9 North, Suite 2C-2
  Freehold, NJ 07728
- 377 Jersey Avenue, Suite 220
  Jersey City, NJ 07302
- Capital Health Medical Center
  1 Capital Way, Suite 238
  Pennington, NJ 08534
- 30 Rehill Avenue, #2300
  Somerville, NJ 08876
- 193 Morris Avenue
  Springfield, NJ 07081
- Pavilions at Evesham
  2301 Evesham Road, Suite 306
  Voorhees, NJ 08043
- Center for Outpatient Surgery
  1 Executive Drive, Suite 10
  Tinton Falls, NJ 07701
- 111 East 59th Street
  New York, NY 10022
Welcoming Patients From Around The World

International Patient Services
The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction (IAR) at The Plastic Surgery Center welcomes patients from around the world. We understand the difficulties in managing your healthcare in a foreign setting and pride ourselves with our commitment to provide our patients and their families with an exceptional healthcare experience. The IAR is comprised of dedicated patient coordinators who provide special service for every patient from the moment you contact us throughout the entire continuum of care.

Medical Coordination
Our patient coordinator will organize a medical record review matching your medical need and providers request with the appropriate physicians at The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction. Patients and their families have direct access to doctors and staff. Due to our extensive experience with visiting medical patients and their caregivers, we assure that all your questions and concerns are addressed, and that you receive efficient management of services across the entire continuum of care.

We serve as a liaison for patients and their families with physicians, nurses and other healthcare providers to coordinate pre-admission needs (paperwork, diagnostic tests, further appointments). We provide support with information and resources for the entire process: from pre-admission to recovery and resumption of normal lifestyle.

Our dedicated staff will assist you with information regarding the costs and financing of your care. We are skilled at reviewing all visa, financial and other necessities to coordinate and assure that you are equipped, well informed and well prepared.

Concierge Care
At The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction, we are committed to fulfilling the needs of our patients and their families, and providing a smooth and successful process within a healing environment. We cater to patient and family requests that include:

- Travel arrangements
- Hotel arrangements
- Transportation
- Meal or dietary needs
- Religious services
- Information research
- Translation and interpretation services
- Private duty nursing
Innovative and Pioneering Procedures

Diaphragm Paralysis Treatment, such as Phrenic Nerve Reconstruction, has been developed by doctors at The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction. The Institute is the only place in the world this procedure is being done.

Brachial Plexus Injury is especially traumatic. In the last decade, new techniques have greatly advanced the results of Brachial Plexus Reconstruction, practiced at The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction.

Foot drop as a result of nerve problems likely requires surgery to relieve pressure on the nerve. State-of-the-art nerve surgery procedures performed by experts at The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction are only available at a small number of locations in the world.

Complex Nerve Decompressions of the arms and legs for Peripheral Neuropathy are minimally invasive and successful in relieving the symptoms of neuropathy in up to 90% of well-selected patients.

Nerve decompressions and joint decompressions are an innovative approach to Chronic Joint Pain and done by only a handful of plastic surgeons in the world, including those at The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction.

BARs (Bony Anchored Reinforcement), developed by doctors at The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction, is effective for hernias that have failed many other attempts at repair. The BARS technique after TRAM flap breast reconstruction is another unique innovation.

Our experts are among a handful to perform nerve decompression surgery for severe headaches, particularly from occipital neuralgia. This is minimally invasive surgery performed on an outpatient basis. They also successfully treat migraine headaches with the use of BOTOX®, which is FDA-approved for this purpose.
Frequently Asked Questions

What is plastic surgery?
Plastic surgery is the surgical specialty or procedure concerned with the restoration, construction, reconstruction or improvement in the form, function and appearance of body structures that are missing, defective, damaged or misshapen. It encompasses both reconstructive and aesthetic surgery.

WebMD.com Medical Dictionary

What is the definition of reconstructive plastic surgery?
Reconstructive plastic surgery seeks to correct any physical feature which is grossly deformed or abnormal by accepted standards—either as the result of a birth defect, congenital disorder, illness or trauma; it is surgery which addresses not only a deformed appearance, but also seeks to correct or improve some deficiency or abnormality in the function of the body part in question.

About.com

What is the connection between the reconstructive and cosmetic practices of The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction and The Plastic Surgery Center?
Performing some of the most specialized medical procedures in their field gives the physicians a rare expertise in both practices. In addition, this combination of qualifications allows the physicians to be selective in the patients they treat, assuring the most professional and appropriate care and optimal outcomes.

The physicians at The Plastic Surgery Center and The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction take pride in their careful and comprehensive treatment of patients, based on their 50 years of combined experience as well as their unique qualifications in both cosmetic and reconstructive plastic surgery.

How should a savvy consumer select a plastic surgery practice?
Do your homework. First, check credentials (at minimum, you should make sure a doctor is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery). Also, go on the Internet, research the procedure as well as the doctor, and check around for ‘word of mouth’ recommendations.

Ask the prospective doctor for references, and to see photos of prior procedures. In consultation appointments, take your time. Have a list of your questions and a notebook to write answers. Bring a friend or relative with you if that would be helpful. Make sure you feel completely comfortable with the doctor. While cost is undeniably a factor, don’t make your choice “all about the money”. Feel free to follow up with the doctor or staff with any questions or concerns after your consultation visit.

Finally, according to Dr. Michael Rose of The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction and The Plastic Surgery Center in Shrewsbury, NJ, “Always go with your gut. We’ve all had the experience when something doesn’t feel right, and to the contrary, when you meet with someone competent and you feel like it is right. After assuring the doctor is qualified, it comes down to how you feel, and whether he or she inspires confidence.”
Dr. Andrew Elkwood is skilled in many of the latest plastic surgery techniques. In addition to his expertise in cosmetic surgery, Dr. Elkwood is an international expert in nerve reconstruction surgery for patients who have lost the use of a limb from nerve damage. He is highly skilled in microsurgery, limb replantation, BARs (Bony Anchored Reinforcement) and microsurgical reconstruction after cancer.

Dr. Elkwood is a graduate of the prestigious six-year combined B.S./M.D. program at Union College, Schenectady, New York, and the Albany Medical College of Union University, Albany, New York. He completed his general surgery residency at New York University and Bellevue Hospital, and simultaneously received a graduate degree in finance and economics from Columbia University.

Dr. Elkwood continued training at the Institute of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery at the New York University Medical Center/Bellevue Hospital/Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, which ran the world’s busiest cosmetic surgery service.

Dr. Elkwood is double board certified in general surgery and plastic surgery by the American Board of Plastic Surgery and the American Board of Surgery. He is a Fellow of both the American College of Surgeons (FACS) and a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons as well as the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons.

Dr. Elkwood is the founder and director of the Center for Treatment of Paralysis and Reconstructive Nerve Surgery at Jersey Shore Medical Center.

Dr. Elkwood is an associate professor of surgery at Drexel University as well as a journal reviewer and frequent contributor to multiple scientific journals. He has appeared extensively in major media, including CNN, Good Morning America, The Oprah Winfrey Show, 20/20, The Learning Channel, Fox News, and The Discovery Channel. Dr. Elkwood is also a Top Doctor by New Jersey Monthly year after year, elected by his peers for inclusion in Best Doctors in America®, and is listed as one of the best surgeons in America in The Consumer Guide to Top Doctors. Additionally, he was named a Castle Connolly Top Doctor for Cancer.

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Dr. Elkwood - Did You Know?

Dr. Elkwood was accepted to medical school at age 15, and finished his accelerated medical degree program by age 22. He is an avid skier, active in tennis and sailing, and does a yearly scuba diving trip with partners in his practice. He is a lifelong musician, and plays keyboard and guitar with the eight-member band Cell Division, which includes fellow partners in his medical practice. Cell Division is the two-time winner of the Battle of the Bands to benefit the Jersey Shore chapter of The Wellness Community. In 2010, he performed surgeries in Gaza with the charity organization Palestinian Children's Relief Fund, and was assisted by his 17-year-old son, who was the official photographer of the charitable mission.

Inspiring Medical Case:

Yelena Shrayfel joins a long list of patients who have successfully undergone surgery for brachial plexus injuries with Dr. Andrew Elkwood. The 49-year-old avid motorcyclist incurred a motorcycle injury. Along with her shoulder and clavicle fracture, she severely injured her brachial plexus, causing the complete loss of function in her entire arm. Dr. Elkwood has been performing brachial plexus surgery for over 20 years, treating patients who come to The Institute for Advanced Reconstruction from all over the United States and various countries around the world. About six months following her surgery, Shrayfel went from severe pain and no use of her arm to essentially complete function. In fact, she’s back riding her motorcycle. Shrayfel was joined by another recent patient: a 9-year-old from Kenya who had sustained a brachial plexus injury at birth. She made the trip to Shrewsbury, New Jersey for a successful surgery with Dr. Elkwood.

Quote:

“Working in both cosmetic and reconstructive plastic surgery makes you a better surgeon. You think about everything more pragmatically. It enables you to put things in perspective. It makes you insightful and gives you maturity of judgment.”
Dr. Michael Rose, Chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, is an expert in reconstruction following cancer surgery or deforming accidents. He is particularly skilled in complex nerve decompression surgery for people suffering from all forms of neuropathy, and is one of only a handful of plastic surgeons specifically trained in this technique.

Dr. Rose is specially trained in the most modern and safe techniques for facelifts, cheeklifts, eyetucks, and browlifts. He also specializes in breast augmentation, reduction and lifting, as well as tummy tucks, thigh, arm and buttock lifting and liposuction. Dr. Rose has a special interest in body contouring after massive weight loss surgery.

Dr. Rose received his medical degree from New York University School of Medicine. He then completed a five-year general surgery residency at New York University Medical Center and Bellevue Hospital, where he was selected as executive chief resident and won the award for Best Surgical Educator for that year. During his residency, he did a one-year fellowship in the plastic surgery laboratories at New York University Medical Center.

Dr. Rose completed his training with a plastic and reconstructive surgery fellowship at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. While at Emory, he published research on the safety of cosmetic surgery. In addition to research and publications, he presented at national and international meetings and received a national award for his research.

Dr. Rose is double board certified both in plastic surgery and general surgery by the American Board of Plastic Surgery and the American Board of Surgery, respectively. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (FACS) and is a member of the prestigious American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons and also a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons.

For 10 consecutive years, Dr. Rose has been recognized as a peer-determined Castle Connolly Top Doctor for the New York metropolitan area. He has been widely published in medical journals and featured in major local and national media.

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Dr. Rose - Did You Know?

Dr. Rose developed a plastic surgery interest as a sculptor while an undergraduate at Skidmore College. He was inspired when his brother’s girlfriend was restored after a severe car accident to her original beauty, even improved, by a plastic surgeon. He is a licensed pilot. He studied drums and guitar as a teen, and plays guitar in Cell Division with other members of his medical practice. Cell Division is the two-time winner of the Battle of the Bands to benefit the Jersey Shore chapter of The Wellness Community. He is rebuilding a 1965 Cobra racecar, the same project as his practice colleague Dr. Jonathan Weiswasser.

Inspiring Medical Case:

Dr. Rose was acquainted with a woman who worked at Jersey Shore Medical Center. She was hit by a car while leaving work, and her arm was nearly severed off. Dr. Rose and an orthopedic surgeon spent hours piecing together the nerves and blood vessels of her arm. The woman, who also worked incredibly hard in therapy, regained nearly 100 percent function of her arm. “It is inspiring to see her every day at the hospital, waving to me with her fully functioning hand,” says Dr. Rose.

Quote:

“I am most proud of the fact that, professionally, I feel that I have maintained an extremely ethical code. In plastic surgery, there can be a lot of pressure to operate on someone who walks in, cash in hand. But by maintaining ethics and standards of excellence, I can provide exceptional care to my patients.”
Dr. Matthew Kaufman is board certified in both Plastic Surgery and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, and he is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (FACS). Dr. Kaufman’s training was completed at the best training programs in both New York and Los Angeles. He received his undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton where he graduated with Honors and was named to the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa Society. He attended medical school at the State University of New York at Syracuse, graduating in the top 5% of his medical school class. While there, he received numerous honors including acceptance into the AOA medical honor society and an endowment scholarship for outstanding academic performance.

Dr. Kaufman embarked on his surgical training at one of the nation’s top training programs for Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at The Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan. While there, he trained with world famous surgeons dedicated to complex Head and Neck Reconstruction and Facial Plastic Surgery. Upon completion, he continued his training in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the prestigious UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles. While in Los Angeles, he learned the most advanced and innovative plastic surgery techniques from leaders and innovators practicing in the epicenter of the cosmetic surgery world.

Dr. Kaufman is highly skilled in all cosmetic surgery procedures of the face and body. These procedures include: facelift, blepharoplasty (eyelid rejuvenation), browlift, nose reshaping (rhinoplasty), ear reshaping (otoplasty), chin/lip surgery, skin resurfacing, liposuction, breast augmentation, breast lift/reduction and abdominoplasty. In addition, he has advanced expertise in complex revision rhinoplasty and ethnic rhinoplasty (non-Caucasian rhinoplasty).

Dr. Kaufman has the rather rare distinction of achieving board certification in both Plastic Surgery and Otolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery. This gives him the added expertise necessary to deal with complex cosmetic and reconstructive problems of the head, face and neck. He has also pioneered treatments for phrenic nerve paralysis and has successfully treated over 120 patients with diaphragm paralysis from throughout the U.S. and from countries as far away as Australia and Israel. He is a regional expert in trigger point decompression surgery for migraine headaches and occipital neuralgia. He has been surgically treating this condition since 2006 and is amongst the most experienced in the U.S.

Dr. Kaufman has been featured in Cosmetic Surgery Times for his tissue engineering research and has been a medical consultant for “Untold Stories of the ER”, a syndicated series on The Learning Channel. Other media appearances include SIRIUS Doctor Radio, Good Morning America, The Oprah Winfrey Show, Discovery Health, CBS News, Radio Pacifica and Eyewitness News.

Dr. Kaufman has published numerous articles and book chapters in the plastic surgery literature and has lectured at both national and international surgical meetings. He is a lead author of “Aesthetics and Cosmetic Surgery for Darker Skin Types”, the first textbook dedicated to cosmetic surgery in darker racial ethnic groups. He also has chapters on “Ethnic Rhinoplasty and Reduction and Augmentation of the Breasts.”

For seven consecutive years, Dr. Kaufman has been named a Top Plastic Surgeon by both the Castle Connolly Guide (for the New York metropolitan area) and Inside New Jersey. He has also been named a Top Plastic Surgeon by New Jersey Monthly.

Dr. Kaufman is the founder and co-director of Axon Advance Foundation, a 501(c)3 charitable organization developed in 2013 to improve the lives of people with spinal cord injury through clinical research, access to innovative surgical procedures, and community outreach.

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Dr. Kaufman became interested in medicine as a high school Chief of Youth Corps for his local ambulance service, and then went on for EMT certification. He began serious guitar study at age 13 and today plays in Cell Division, an eight-member band that includes partners in his medical practice. Cell Division is the two-time winner of the Battle of the Bands to benefit the Jersey Shore chapter of The Wellness Community.

**Inspiring Medical Case:**
Gal Cohen traveled all the way from Israel to undergo phrenic nerve surgery with the procedure’s pioneer, Dr. Matthew Kaufman. He was so short of breath from a paralyzed diaphragm, which occurred inadvertently following a surgical procedure, that he used bedroom fans to provide what he felt was missing oxygen. In general, says the Tel Aviv resident, “I felt like I was suffocating even with mild exertion.”

Dr. Kaufman continually sees patients like Gal Cohen, who have a paralyzed diaphragm as a result of surgery, injury or accident. Subsequently, they have life-altering symptoms. Much of the time, these patients are told by other medical professionals that they “just have to live with it.” But the condition can cause severe problems, such as dangerous, repeated bouts of pneumonia.

Cohen represents the nearly 200 patients from around the USA and various other countries on whom Dr. Kaufman has performed this procedure since 2007. The 48-year-old Cohen now reports that since the surgery, “I can swim one kilometer (0.62 mile) in 25 minutes or less without difficulty. I actually feel almost the same as before the diaphragm injury. I’m so glad I found Dr. Kaufman.”

**Quote:**
“The unique aspect of our practice is that we do unbelievably groundbreaking work outside of an academic center. This is uncommon in private practice, especially in the world of plastic surgery. The benefit is we can assist our patients without the “red tape”; we have a lot more flexibility and independence.”
Dr. Tushar Patel is a specialist in reconstruction after cancer surgery and traumatic injury. His exceptional microsurgery training enables him to perform the most sophisticated reconstructive procedures to treat facial and extremity deformities, as well as breast reconstruction.

Dr. Patel is double board certified in plastic surgery and general surgery by the American Board of Plastic Surgery and the American Board of Surgery. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (FACS) and a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. These distinctive accomplishments, together with his interest in advanced reconstruction, have allowed Dr. Patel to be an active member of the reconstructive team at the Cancer Institute of New Jersey in New Brunswick.

Dr. Patel received his undergraduate degree from Rutgers University, graduating with honors. He earned his medical degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, from which he graduated in the top of his class.

Dr. Patel then completed training and became board certified in general surgery at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, earning the award for academic excellence during his surgical training. He completed a one-year fellowship in the National Institutes of Health-funded laboratories in the Department of Surgical Sciences at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. His research led to multiple publications in peer-reviewed journals as well as presentations at several national meetings.

Dr. Patel continued his training in the University of Texas-Health Science Center’s plastic and reconstructive surgery fellowship program at the world-renowned Texas Medical Center in Houston. While at UT, he also trained at the prestigious MD Anderson Cancer Center, where he learned some of the most advanced and pioneering techniques in breast cancer reconstruction. These techniques include the DIEP (perforator) flap as well as the muscle-sparing TRAM flap. Dr. Patel is also an expert in orbital decompression for Graves' Ophthalmopathy.

Dr. Patel has been recognized by The Consumer Research Council of America as Top Surgeon and Top Plastic Surgeon since 2007 and was named Top Doctor in New Jersey Monthly. He is also a Castle Connolly Top Doctor.

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Dr. Patel - Did You Know?

Dr. Patel was born in India and moved to New Jersey when he was only one. His wife, father and sister are all pharmacists. He has done several charitable missions for facial surgeries, notably in El Salvador and India, where along with his team, he performed 75-100 surgeries in one week. A religion minor in college, Dr. Patel concludes, “I think it informed me on different perspectives. We see a lot of cultures representing many different religions in our practice, and it helps me to understand their backgrounds a little better.” Dr. Patel’s interests have led him to perform orbital decompressive surgery for patients affected with debilitating Graves’ Ophthalmopathy, which involves removing excess tissue from within and around the affected prominent eyes, providing a more functional result.

Inspiring Medical Case:
Areti Chavas, a 39-year-old resident of Middletown, New Jersey, and mother of two, developed Graves’ disease shortly after the birth of her second child. This led to the characteristic eye problems that caused her to experience pressure build-up on the optic nerve, with extensive eye swelling. When it was time for surgery, she found Dr. Tushar Patel, who performs orbital decompression surgery.

According to the Graves’ Disease and Thyroid Foundation, Graves’ must be treated to avoid serious complications. Chavas underwent surgery with Dr. Patel on one eye in March, 2014, and as is customary, had the second eye surgery six weeks later.

“Dr. Patel spoke so I didn’t feel that he was ‘giving me the speech.’ He was there; he was present; talking to me about my situation. Even though he has done this surgery many times, he was not talking to me like I was just the next case.”

Quote:
“Breast reconstructive surgery is very rewarding. We are dealing with a situation in which women experience a sudden loss of a part of their body, which is not just a physical challenge, but a psychological one as well. With reconstruction, we are giving them back something vitally important.”
Dr. Ashinoff earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science at the University at Albany, graduating with honors and receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Research. He earned his medical degree at the SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY. Dr. Ashinoff was then chosen to continue his training in General Surgery at the renowned New York University and Bellevue Hospital program in Manhattan. While there, he spent an additional year conducting research in the Laboratory for Microvascular Research and Vascular Tissue Engineering. His work was featured at several national and international meetings, and was published in numerous medical journals.

Dr. Ashinoff was then invited to train as a Fellow in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Emory University in Atlanta. While there, he worked alongside pioneers in the field of plastic surgery, learning the most innovative and advanced techniques in cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. During this time, he also published scientific articles on Eyelid Rejuvenation and Breast Reconstruction, as well as authoring a book chapter on the treatment of pediatric craniofacial trauma.

Dr. Ashinoff is Double Board Certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery and The American Board of Surgery. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (FACS) and a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgery (ASPS). He was named a Castle Connolly Top Doctor as well as a Castle Connolly Top Doctor for Cancer. Additionally, Dr. Ashinoff has been included on the lists of Top Surgeons and Top Plastic Surgeons for several consecutive years by The Consumer Research Council of America.

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Dr. Ashinoff - Did You Know?

Dr. Ashinoff is the first doctor in his family. He and his wife, a social worker who has worked with children with autism spectrum disorders, are active in breast cancer charities and various charities for children with special needs.

Inspiring Medical Case:

In 2011, Dr. Ashinoff performed breast reduction surgery on a patient who had suffered from debilitating back and neck pain for many years. Her preoperative mammogram was normal and her surgery went wonderfully, with immediate relief of her symptoms.

A week later, the lab report revealed that cancer was detected in the breast tissue that had been removed. While the diagnosis was unexpected, it was also lifesaving, as the cancer was invisible on x-ray and would have continued to grow undetected. She underwent a mastectomy and reconstruction with Dr. Ashinoff, and is back to working as a full time medical professional.

Quote:

“Plastic surgery is a wonderful field because it allows us to help patients in so many different ways, ranging from breast reconstruction after breast cancer to facial reconstruction after malignancy or trauma to limb replantation. The skills we share in this practice allow us to approach a problem from many angles and offer a solution based on a wealth of knowledge and experience.”
Dr. Adam Saad is double board certified in general surgery and plastic surgery by the American Board of Plastic Surgery and the American Board of Surgery. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (FACS) and a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS).

A New Jersey native, Dr. Saad received his undergraduate degree from Rutgers University. He graduated from Rutgers with honors and was a member of the Golden Key national honor society. He attended medical school at Drexel University where he became involved in multiple research projects and in improving surgical education.

Dr. Saad completed his residency in general surgery at Drexel University/Hahnemann Hospital in Philadelphia. While there, he remained actively involved in research and co-authored several publications on Sports Hernia. Dr. Saad routinely scored in the top 15% on his in-service examinations.

Dr. Saad continued his training in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Louisiana State University in New Orleans. While there he acquired a significant amount of experience in microsurgery and breast reconstruction, especially with regards to the Fat Grafting for breast reconstruction, which was pioneered at LSU. He learned advanced reconstructive microsurgery of the lower extremity as it applies to treatment of Avascular Necrosis (AVN) of the Hip.

Dr. Saad is a Clinical Assistant Professor, in the Department of Surgery at Drexel University of Medicine. He has published multiple scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals including Journal of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and presented at American Society of Reconstructive Microsurgeons’ annual meetings.

He has also used some of the world’s most advanced computerized techniques to aid in complex microsurgical reconstruction. Dr. Saad presented his research on virtual surgical planning the Louisiana Society of Plastic Surgeons where he won the award for best research presentation.

Dr. Saad’s interests include treatment of Sports Hernia, Fat Grafting for breast reconstruction and reconstructive microsurgery for treatment of Avascular Necrosis (AVN) of the Hip.

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Did You Know?

Dr. Saad - Did You Know?

Dr. Saad is part of a medical family. His father is a pediatric surgeon and his wife, Kelly Willman, MD, is a trauma/critical care surgeon in Atlantic City, NJ. Dr. Saad played soccer and hockey for many years, and still keeps fit working out and lifting weights. He is participating in a Susan G. Komen 3-day, 60-mile Breast Cancer Walk in October, 2012.

Inspiring Medical Case:

Anthony Fiorentino, a 33-year-old Brigantine, New Jersey resident, avid gym goer and physically active Regional Operations Director for a restaurant group, was experiencing excruciating pain radiating from his hip to his knee. It turned out he suffered from Avascular necrosis (AVN), also known as osteonecrosis, which is the death of bone tissue due to lack of blood supply and can lead to the bone’s eventual collapse. Fiorentino’s orthopedist felt he was too young for a hip replacement, so he referred him immediately to Dr. Adam Saad, the only doctor in New Jersey who performs free vascularized fibular graft for AVN, a specialized microsurgical procedure for hip joint preservation. “I’m getting married in three months,” Fiorentino explained to Saad, “and all I want is to be able to walk down the aisle to my new wife”. The recovery can be a long road, but Dr. Saad made a promise to get him standing by the time he took his vows. Explained Dr. Saad, “He reminded me of my own wedding day and of the joy I experienced on that day. I wanted to give him the opportunity to experience the same joy pain-free and be able to walk. Being able to help patients like Anthony is why I am a doctor. There is no greater thrill than changing a patient’s life. Not only was Anthony able to enjoy his wedding but he also avoided getting a hip replacement at a very young age.” Today, Fiorentino is not only happily married, but back to his gym and work routine, and living pain free.
Dr. Lisa Schneider is a specialist trained in microsurgical reconstruction of all areas of the body in addition to hand and cosmetic surgery.

A longtime advocate of women’s health issues, she has a particular interest in breast reconstruction, both using implants and the body’s own tissue for free flap DIEP reconstruction. Using the body’s own tissue or “autologous” reconstruction uses microsurgical techniques to move tissue from the abdomen (DIEP flap) and other areas of the body to create a new breast.

Dr. Schneider trained in plastic and reconstructive surgery at the Institute for Reconstructive Plastic Surgery (IRPS) at New York University Langone Medical Center and Bellevue Hospital Center, where she received training from international experts in all aspects of plastic surgery, including aesthetic, reconstruction, hand and microsurgery. She was one of an elite group chosen for a directed six-year training that combined general and plastic surgery, the most selective residency category in the United States. She pursued additional training at IRPS in microsurgical reconstruction in order to maximize her ability to reconstruct the most challenging surgical problems.

She attended medical school at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons where she was selected to be a member of the prestigious Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. Because of her dedication to compassionate patient care, she was selected for the Gold Humanism Honor Society. She was also selected for additional awards based on exceptional academic achievement, including the Glasgow-Rubin Achievement Award, the Markowitz Endowment for Scholars and the Herbert J. Bartelstone Award.

As an undergraduate, she attended Yale University, where she graduated with a Summa Cum Laude degree in Humanities and was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Society. She was awarded the Nicholas Poulin Cup, given to the woman with the highest GPA in the graduating class of Pierson College, and a Howard Hughes Institute Fellowship for teaching. She was co-coordinator of the sexual assault counseling service for Yale University. She traveled to both Kenya and India to perform humanitarian work.
Dr. Eric Wimmers has unique expertise in microsurgery and immunology. His extensive research utilizing stem cells in hand transplantation has been presented nationally and internationally, and was funded by prestigious grants from the U.S. Department of Defense. Years of work in transplantation combined with three years of reconstructive training at world-renowned Johns Hopkins University have made him an expert in microsurgery. Although he operates on the entire body, his special interests are breast reconstruction (DIEP flap surgery) and peripheral nerve repair.

Dr. Wimmers received his B.S. in Physiology at UCLA and completed graduate work in Molecular & Cell Biology at San Francisco State University. He received his medical degree from Howard University in Washington D.C., followed by General Surgery training at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital. He then performed hand transplant research at the University of Pittsburgh as well as Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD. During this research period, he continued clinical duties by working as an intensivist in the cardiac surgery ICU at Johns Hopkins Hospital. This experience plays an important role in dealing with complex patient cases.

During his Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital, he had the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Andrew Lee, one of the pioneers in the field of hand transplants; in addition, Dr. Wimmers was selected to assist in the care of a bilateral hand transplant recipient.

Dr. Wimmers’ numerous publications include one of first papers to demonstrate the effect of CTLA-4 (a drug) to achieve complete graft acceptance in a transplant model.

Dr. Wimmers is a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgery, the American Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery, and the American College of Surgeons.
Dr. Jonathan Weiswasser is a renowned vascular surgeon skilled in the latest medical advancements developed for treating diseases of the veins. Dr. Weiswasser’s background encompasses extensive experience in treating varicose veins, reticular veins, spider veins and other unsightly, and often painful, venous diseases. He also has extensive experience in the treatment of chronic venous insufficiency, a disease in which blood does not properly return from the legs. He was one of the early adopters of minimally invasive endovascular techniques useful in the treatment of varicose veins, venous stasis ulcers and other venous disorders in the legs and arms.

Dr. Weiswasser completed his undergraduate studies at Northwestern University. He holds a medical degree from New York University School of Medicine and trained in both general surgery and vascular surgery at New York University Medical Center. He underwent additional training in specialized endovascular techniques and carotid stenting at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York. Dr. Weiswasser was formerly Chief of Vascular Surgery at the prestigious Washington Veterans Administration Medical Center in Washington, DC. He is a former Instructor of Surgery at George Washington and New York Universities.

Dr. Weiswasser has earned board certification in both General Surgery and Vascular Surgery, as well as the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers as a vascular technologist. He is widely published in professional journals, and has appeared extensively in major media.

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Dr. Weiswasser - Did You Know?

Dr. Weiswasser, who has played drums for almost thirty years, is a member of EagleMania, ‘The World’s Greatest Eagles Tribute Band’. The group performs to sold out crowds around the country. He also plays with other members of his medical practice in Cell Division, the two-time winner of the Battle of the Bands to benefit the Jersey Shore chapter of The Wellness Community. He is a commercial airline pilot and flight instructor, who also taught practice partner Dr. Michael Rose to fly. He was accepted among the top 200 astronaut applicants in 2003. He built his own airplane, and is currently building a replica 1965 Cobra racecar, the same project as his colleague Dr. Rose.

Inspiring Medical Care:
Cutting-edge endovenous laser ablation for the treatment of varicose veins, which is performed by Dr. Weiswasser, is minimally invasive, meaning no surgery or scarring. Endovenous laser ablation has a 98% success rate. Prior to this procedure, surgical ligation and stripping was the best treatment available for treating vein problems, but it has a recurrence rate of 66%. Studies have shown only about a seven to nine percent rate of recurrence five years after endovenous laser ablation.

Quote:
“I am proud of the practice that we’ve built. Our major advantage is that we offer comprehensive and complete selections and treatments for people with vein disease.”