

Surgery and Recovery:

The procedure is usually performed on an outpatient basis under general anesthesia but can be performed with sedation and local anesthesia in some cases. Surgery usually takes from 2 to 3 hours. Postoperatively most patients are able to look after themselves at home by the day after surgery and return to nonstrenuous activities between 4 and 7 days postoperatively. Return to strenuous activities such as running, lifting and heavy exercise usually takes from 4 to 6 weeks.

Risks:

Infection, bleeding, nerve injury, asymmetry, excessive scarring, partial loss of breast tissue or nipples, delayed wound healing, inability to breast feed.

Cost:

\$6000 to \$7500 depending on type of anesthesia used. Often covered by insurance.