

LOSA

# Breast Reconstruction Surgery

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PATIENT INFORMATION SUMMARY

Restoring natural  
form & aesthetics.

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# Breast Reconstruction Surgery

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This information has been prepared for those seeking information on immediate or delayed breast reconstruction surgery. The information provided is a guide only.

## Consultation:

When you call to make an appointment, our staff will take some basic details from you including your email address. We will then send out electronic versions of our new patient forms, including a registration form (for your personal and health fund details), as well as copies of our privacy and fees policies.

Please ensure you take the time to fill these forms out and email them back to us before your appointment date. In most cases, your referring doctor will have sent an electronic copy of your referral to us, but if not, please bring a hard copy of your referral on the day of your appointment.

Wait periods for a consultation with Dr Campbell-Lloyd can vary depending on the time of year. Please visit our website for estimated wait times displayed on our home page.

You will have a 60 minute consultation with Dr Campbell-Lloyd - the cost is \$250 and with a referral you will receive a rebate of \$76.15. During the consultation you will:

- Discuss in length the procedure you are interested in having done;
- Be assessed to determine whether you are a candidate for your chosen procedure;
- Be examined and measured with the assistance of our female practice nurse; and
- Have pre-operative photographs taken by the practice nurse. These are to assist with making a surgical plan.

If you decide to proceed with surgery:

Due to the complexity of the procedures we perform, you will be required to have a second consultation to finalise a surgical plan and sign a consent form. The second consultation is included in the initial \$250 fee. If you are unsure about proceeding and wish to have a further discussion or request more than two consultations you will be billed per subsequent visit of \$100 with a rebate of \$38.25.

## Referral:

Please bring a referral along to your appointment. A referral will give you access to the Medicare rebate of \$75.05 from the consultation fee as well as allow us to bulk bill your second consultation. You will require a referral if you choose to proceed with surgery.

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## DIEP flap procedure

Patients who choose the DIEP (deep inferior epigastric perforator) flap procedure will be given a request form to have a CT scan of the abdomen - this will determine whether they are a candidate for the procedure. The scan will need to be done prior to the second consultation.

Below is some terminology that may be used during your consultation:

### DIEP Flap

The tissue harvested from the abdomen to reconstruct the breast. The tissue of the lower abdomen below the navel can be used. Normally, only one half of this tissue is used to reconstruct each breast.

### DIEP

Deep inferior epigastric artery perforator - this refers to the blood vessels supplying the "flap".

### Skin Paddle

The skin that is taken from the abdomen and will be seen on the breast after surgery - usually this skin is used to replace the nipple. The skin paddle is also used to monitor the health of the flap in the first few days after surgery.

### Delayed reconstruction

This term is used when a patient has had a mastectomy but chose not to have or was not offered a reconstruction at the same time. The reconstruction is now considered 'delayed'.

### Immediate reconstruction

This term is used when a patient chooses to have a reconstruction at the same time as their mastectomy.

### Stacked DIEP

This is significantly more complex than a standard DIEP flap, and *Dr Campbell-Lloyd is the only surgeon in QLD who currently offers this surgery*. This technique is used for either a large breasted lady, or a slim lady, who is having a single breast removed. A "stacked" flap may be used when one breast requires reconstruction but there is not enough abdominal tissue in a single DIEP flap to match the size of the opposing breast. The "stacking" technique involves 2 separate DIEP flaps (ie. raised from both sides of the abdomen) which are combined microsurgically to reconstruct a single breast.

This procedure can take anywhere from 4 hours (unilateral) to 8 hours (bilateral) and will require a minimum of 6 weeks recovery. You will need to prepare for your recovery!

You will not be able to:

- Go to the gym
- Lift anything (especially not your kids!)
- Straighten fully when standing, or lie flat on your back
- Perform any repetitive arm movements including regular household chores like ironing, hanging out washing vacuuming etc.
- Swim or submerge yourself in water of any kind (including baths, spas, pools etc.)

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## Implant reconstruction procedure

Below is some terminology that may be used during your consultation:

### Expander

A temporary 'implant' that can be filled with saline to stretch the skin

### Expansion

Progressive filling of the expander with saline; this requires injection through the skin using a needle

### DTI

Direct to implant- an implant reconstruction without the use of an expander first

### Delayed reconstruction

This term is used when a patient has had a mastectomy but chose not to have or was not offered a reconstruction at the same time. The reconstruction is now considered 'delayed'.

### Immediate reconstruction

This term is used when a patient chooses to have a reconstruction at the same time as their mastectomy.

### Pre-pectoral

This refers to the placement of the expander or the implant in relation to the Pectoralis major (chest) muscle. Dr Campbell-Lloyd prefers the pre-pectoral position as it avoids the issues associated with "implant animation"

### Submuscular

This refers to the placement of the implant or expander under the Pectoralis major muscle. This is an older fashioned technique and most patients referred to Dr Campbell-Lloyd for correction or revision of their reconstruction have a submuscular implant.

This procedure can take anywhere from 2 hours (unilateral) to 4 hours (bilateral) and will also require a minimum 6 week recovery period.

You will not be able to:

- Go to the gym
- Lift anything (especially not your kids!)
- Straighten fully when standing, or lie flat on your back
- Perform any repetitive arm movements including regular household chores like ironing, hanging out washing vacuuming etc.
- Swim or submerge yourself in water of any kind (including baths, spas, pools etc.)

## What implants does Dr Campbell-Lloyd use?

Primarily we use Motiva implants.

- They are a nano-textured implant (not macro textured as associated with ALCL);
- There are no reported cases of ALCL associated with this implant;
- They are a round implant

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## FEES

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We offer *primary* breast reconstruction under the 'known GAP scheme'.

Dr Campbell-Lloyd is one of the only Specialist Plastic Surgeons in Queensland offering breast reconstruction under the known GAP scheme. Depending on your level of private health insurance, you may have to pay a "hospital excess" for your admission to hospital. These costs are unrelated to the costs of surgery or services provided by LOSA. Below are your out of pocket costs; there is no rebate on these costs. Prices are as follows:

Dr Campbell-Lloyd's 'known GAP' fee:	\$500
Post-operative garments:	\$120-270
Aftercare:	\$1000 (In room consultations required for a 12 month period) Payable to Dr Campbell-Lloyd 1 week prior to surgery.
Second Surgeon 'known GAP' fee: (only required for the DIEP flap procedure)	\$500 Payable to Dr Mark Rahman 1 week prior to surgery.
Anaesthetic 'known GAP' fee:	\$500 Payable to Coast Anaesthesia 1 week prior to surgery.

### Additional procedure costs:

Any subsequent procedure with an item number ie. revision of your reconstruction (when initial reconstruction is with Dr Campbell-Lloyd) and *including a return to theatre* will incur the same 'known GAP' payment charges for each specialist; you may not always require a second surgeon.

\*\*This does not include fat grafting which is not covered by health insurance and will incur additional fees. These fees range from \$1500-\$3500.

We recommend you to check your level of cover with your health fund, below are the common item numbers used:

#### DIEP flap reconstruction

45504      45570  
45505      30405  
45565      45569  
45562      48406

#### Implant reconstruction

45539      45542  
45523      45496  
45520      45554  
45012

# Breast Reconstruction Surgery

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## Revision breast reconstruction surgery

A consultation with Dr Campbell-Lloyd is imperative before any assumptions can be made about the procedure you require or the costs associated with it. Below are some common revisionary procedures and an estimation of Dr Campbell-Lloyd's costs. These fees apply to patients who have had their original reconstruction surgery with a surgeon other than Dr Campbell-Lloyd.

We cannot provide anaesthetic costs as these are time dependent and can only be obtained after a consultation. If you have the correct level of private health cover your hospital visit will be covered, please note the item numbers below to check you level of cover with your insurer.

Remove & replace implants with "neopocket" (bilateral)

**Item number:** 45554 x 2

**Surgeon's fee:** from \$2120 (estimated rebate \$710)

Revision of autologous free flap reconstruction (ie. DIEP flap)

**Item number:** 45497

**Surgeon's fee:** from \$1200 (estimated rebate \$420)

This procedure is usually used to reduce the flap size.

**Item number:** 45496

**Surgeon's fee:** from \$3850 (estimated rebate \$420)

This procedure is used to define the breast shape.

Unilateral symmetrising mastopexy (breast lift)

**Item number:** 45556

**Surgeon's fee:** from \$2315 (estimated rebate \$770)

Fat Grafting in conjunction with any of the above procedures

**Item number:** There is no item number available for fat grafting

**Surgeon's fee:** Small volume contouring- \$1500

Large volume contouring- \$3500