



Breast Reduction

What is a Breast Reduction?

A breast reduction, or 'mammoplasty', is a surgical procedure designed to reduce the volume of the breast, in order to make it smaller and – in some cases – more shapely.

Breast reduction surgery focusses on removing excess tissue in the breast, as well as fat and skin to lighten the weight and prominence of the breast. Your nipples will be reshaped or raised, along with the breast, which will create a perkier – and ultimately more aesthetic - breast shape.

Breast reduction surgery is one of the most common procedures in the UK, accounting for roughly 15% of all cosmetic surgical procedures in the UK.

Breast Reduction procedure is ideal for patients with naturally very large breasts that cause discomfort or inconvenience, or those that have permanently increased in size following childbirth. Breast reduction is appropriate for both women and men (for male breast reduction please view our 'gynaecomastia' page) who feel that their breasts are oversized or are not in proportion with the rest of their body.

The Cadogan Clinic employ virtual imaging software to help you visualize potential outcomes in your individual case via Crisalix Imaging software, as well as carefully manage expectations and increase the chances of achieving your goals.

Why do people have it

Female breast size is determined by several factors, including genetics, body weight, and hormonal influences. Breasts can also be affected after giving birth, resulting in an undesirable change in breast shape and size.

Unfortunately, larger breasts can often be associated with a variety of problems, ranging from self-consciousness and inconvenience (especially if you are particularly sporty, or if you struggle to find flattering, well-fitting bras and clothes), through to more serious discomfort. This can include backache, neck pain and skin irritation such as rashes under the breasts. There are also issues that arise such as an inability to take part in certain sports or exercise due to overly large breast size.

Many women desire to have a breast reduction after giving birth when the breast begins to sag lower than before. However, many women have breast reductions prior to having children and are concerned about the ability to breastfeed after surgery. During the procedure, care is taken by your highly skilled surgeon to retain connections between the remaining breast tissue and the skin, in order to preserve breastfeeding capability.

Who is suitable

Cadogan Clinic considers individuals fit for the procedure, if all of the following are true of them:

- An adult with fully developed breasts
- Physically and psychologically fit and healthy
- Concerned by the size or shape of at least one of their breasts, either for aesthetic or comfort reasons
- Have realistic expectations of what can be achieved by surgery

What to expect

PHASE 1: CONSULTATION

The first step for all of our patients is to meet with the surgeon we feel is most suitable to you and best placed to perform your procedure for a consultation.

At the consultation you will be able to discuss with your surgeon what you hope to achieve from the breast reduction procedure, as well as discuss in detail what may or may not be possible given your existing breast anatomy, bone structure and skin quality.

A comprehensive discussion regarding risks and complications will take place, alongside a discussion regarding the post procedure and recovery phase. Your previous medical history will also be recorded (including previous surgery, medications, allergies etc.) and an assessment of your fitness for surgery.

If your surgeon feels you are a good candidate for surgery, you are then invited to consider whether you would like to proceed for surgery or otherwise following a two week 'cooling off' period.

Within this period you are welcome to come in and discuss your potential surgery with your surgeon as many times as you like.

What to expect



PHASE 2: PRE-PROCEDURE

If you choose to proceed with surgery, the next time you come into the Clinic after your final consultation will be the day of your procedure.

Before admission the following behavioural changes are recommended / required:

- In the 6 weeks before your procedure we recommend smoking is discontinued as patients who smoke have a higher risk of healing more slowly and complications
- In the week before your procedure you must cease taking Aspirin or any medication that contains Aspirin
- In the 6 hours prior to surgery you must not consume food or any drink, other than small sips of clear fluid (e.g. still water, black coffee, black tea) which are allowed up to 2 hours before admission



PHASE 3: DAY OF THE PROCEDURE

On the day of your procedure we ask that you arrive for your admission an hour before the agreed start time of surgery. At this point a nurse will come and record blood pressure and other relevant tests, you will meet with your anaesthetist and your surgeon who will make the final mark-ups.

The procedure itself is takes place under general anaesthetic over the course of between two and three hours. The surgery involves the placement of an incision underneath the breast, the excision of breast tissue and volume via this incision, and then finally the repositioning of the nipple.

Following the procedure, you will recover in our ambulatory recovery rooms for between two to three hours, dependent on the scale of the procedure. Once our specialist nursing team are happy that your initial recovery is complete and you are safe to return home, you will be allowed to leave the Clinic accompanied by a friend or member of your family.

What to expect



PHASE 4: POST PROCEDURE & RECOVERY

Once home you will have access to our dedicated oncall nursing team 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This team of specialists are dedicated to your comfort and recovery, and are there to field any questions you may have in the immediate post operative phase.

Breast Reduction recovery is fairly quick and any residual discomfort should subside in a matter of days. Patients are able to return to a normal routine after a week following the procedure. The full healing process is between 2 – 3 weeks. You will have some bruising and swelling, but it will be gone after a few days and you'll be able to get back to your normal routine.

We advise patients to take a week off work whilst swelling is at its peak. We ask our patients to be sensitive to their breast area during this time, and not try to do too much too soon. We also recommend avoiding UV light for 2 -4 weeks to aid the scarring process.

We ask that you come in and see our nursing team 1 week after surgery to ensure your incision sites have been properly reviewed. At this juncture we also recommend you meet with one of our on site aestheticians to discuss ongoing treatment to support the healing process.

You should start to see your results clearly after 6 week mark. We ask that you come in to see your surgeon after 6 weeks for a post procedure for a final check up.

What are the risks

Complications are rare although, as with all surgery, possible. Your surgeon will discuss each of these risks comprehensively at your consultation.

Some risks might include:

- Asymmetry
- Bleeding / swelling
- Contour / shape irregularities
- Inability to breast feed
- Nipple sensation loss
- Scarring

Why Come to Cadogan Clinic for Breast Reduction?

- Cadogan Clinic is an award winning specialist cosmetic clinic, with a track record of delivering safe, high quality cosmetic surgery
- We were founded by Mr Bryan Mayou, the surgeon who first brought Liposuction the UK, and he has trained the next generation of specialists at the Clinic
- Unlike many of our competitors, we use the latest anaesthetic technologies to minimise your downtime, and allow you to return home on the day of your procedure
- Our nursing team provide a dedicated 24/7 oncall service during recovery – whatever your question, we can provide the answer
- We offer a complimentary consultation and treatment with our onsite team of aestheticians to ensure you heal quickly and scar well

At a glance facts



SURGERY TIME

2 - 3 hours



HOSPITAL STAY

Day case



TIME OFF WORK

1 - 2 weeks



FULL RECOVERY

6 - 8 weeks

