Breast augmentation—words to know

To help you get the most out of every office visit, here are some words your surgeon may use during your consultation and along your breast augmentation journey.

Asymmetry
Lack of proportion in shape, size, and/or position between the two breasts.

Bottom-heavy breasts
When the tissue below the breast becomes too weak or stretched, the breast can drop abnormally low.

Breast augmentation
A surgical procedure to increase breast size.

Capsule
Scar tissue which forms around the breast implant. Sometimes this capsule squeezes the implant, resulting in capsular contracture.

Capsular contracture
A tightening of the tissue capsule surrounding an implant, resulting in firmness or hardening of the breast and squeezing of the implant if severe. Capsular contracture is classified by Baker Grades. Baker Grades III and IV are the most severe. Baker Grade III often results in the need for additional surgery (reoperation) because of pain and possible abnormal appearance. Baker Grade IV usually results in the need for additional surgery (reoperation) because of pain and unacceptable appearance. Capsular contracture Baker Grade II may also result in the need for additional surgery. Capsular contracture is a risk for implant rupture. Below is a description of each Baker Grade.

- Baker Grade I—Breast is soft and natural in appearance
- Baker Grade II—Breast is slightly firm, but looks normal
- Baker Grade III—Breast is more firm than normal and looks abnormal (change in shape)
- Baker Grade IV—Breast is hard, with obvious distortion, and is painful

Capsulotomy, closed
An attempt to break the scar tissue capsule around the implant by pressing or pushing on the outside of the breast. This method does not require surgery, but is a known risk for rupture of the implant and is contraindicated.

Capsulotomy, open
An attempt to break the scar tissue capsule around the implant by surgical incision into the capsule.

Contralateral
Opposite side.

Extracapsular rupture
A type of rupture in which the silicone gel has leaked outside of the scar tissue capsule surrounding the implant.

Fat injection
When fat tissue is removed from parts of the body—usually the thighs, belly, or buttocks—by liposuction. The tissue is then processed into liquid and injected into the breast area to enhance the breast.

Inframammary
Below the breast.

Inframammary fold
The crease at the base of the breast.

Inframammary incision
An incision made in the fold below the breast.

Intracapsular rupture
A type of rupture in which the silicone gel remains within the scar tissue capsule surrounding the implant.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
A radiographic examination that currently has the best ability to detect rupture of silicone-filled breast implants.

Who may get breast implants (INDICATIONS)?
Natrelle® Breast Implants are approved for women for the following:
- Breast augmentation for women at least 22 years old for silicone-filled implants.
- Breast augmentation for women at least 18 years old for saline-filled implants.

Breast augmentation includes primary breast augmentation to increase breast size, as well as revision surgery to correct or improve the result of a primary breast augmentation surgery.

Please see Important Safety Information on next page.
Malposition
Implant malposition or displacement is when the implant is not in the desired spot in the breast. This could be due to incorrect placement of the implant during the surgery or due to shifting of the implant position over time.

Mastopexy (breast lift)
Plastic surgery to lift sagging breasts.

Periareolar
Around the darkened or pigmented area surrounding the nipple of the breast.

Primary breast augmentation
The first time a breast implant is placed for the purpose of breast augmentation.

Ptosis
Sagging or drooping of the breast.

Reoperation
An additional surgery after your first breast implantation.

Revision augmentation
Refers to the surgical attempt to correct or improve a primary augmentation. It refers to the surgical removal and replacement of breast implants that were placed originally for primary breast augmentation.

Rupture
A tear or hole in the implant shell. Silicone implant ruptures may occur with or without symptoms. Ruptures can be intracapsular or extracapsular.

Saline
A solution that is made up of water and a small amount of salt.

Silent rupture
A breast implant rupture without symptoms, which is not apparent except through appropriate imaging techniques such as MRI. Most silicone-filled breast implant ruptures are silent. (See symptomatic rupture.)

Silicone gel
A gel made from polymerized organic silicon oxide used as a filling in breast implants.

Subglandular placement
Placement of a breast implant underneath and within the breast glands, but on top of the chest muscle.

Submuscular placement
Placement of a breast implant wholly or partially underneath the chest muscle.

Symptomatic rupture
A breast implant rupture that is associated with symptoms such as lumps, persistent pain, swelling, hardening, or change in implant shape. Some silicone breast implant ruptures are symptomatic, but most are silent. (See silent rupture.)

Transaxillary
Through the axilla (armpit); an incision made under the arm.

Important Safety Information
Who should NOT get breast implants (contraindications)?
Breast implant surgery should not be performed in women with active infection anywhere in their body, with existing cancer or pre-cancer of their breast who have not received adequate treatment for those conditions, and women who are currently pregnant or nursing.

What else should I consider (warnings)?
Breast implants are not lifetime devices or necessarily a one-time surgery. You may experience unacceptable dimpling, puckering, wrinkling, or other cosmetic changes of the breast, which may be permanent. Breast implants may affect your ability to produce milk for breastfeeding. Silicone-filled implants may rupture without symptoms. You should have MRI examinations 3 years after surgery and then every 2 years thereafter in order to detect ruptures. Symptoms of a ruptured implant may be hard knots or lumps surrounding the implant or in the armpit, change or loss of size or shape of the breast or implant, pain, tingling, swelling, numbness, burning or hardening. Talk to your doctor about removing ruptured implants. Inform any other doctor if you have implants.

What types of conditions require more study (precautions)?
Caution: Notify your doctor if you have any of the following conditions, as the risks of breast implant surgery may be higher: autoimmune diseases, a weakened immune system, planned radiation therapy to the breast or planned chemotherapy following breast implant placement, conditions/medications that interfere with wound healing and blood clotting, reduced blood supply to breast tissue or a clinical diagnosis of depression, other mental health disorders, body dysmorphic disorder or eating disorders. These disorders should be resolved or stabilized prior to surgery.

What are some complications with breast implants (complications)?
Key complications are reoperation, implant removal with or without replacement, implant rupture with silicone-filled implants, implant deflation with saline-filled implants, and severe capsular contracture (severe scar tissue around the implant). Other complications include asymmetry, nipple/breast/skin sensation changes, scarring or wrinkling/rippling. Talk to your doctor about other complications.

Talk to your doctor. For more information see the Patient Brochures at www.allergan.com/labeling/usa.htm or call the Allergan Product Support line at 1-800-433-8871.

To report a problem with Natrelle®, please call Allergan Product Surveillance at 1-800-624-4261.

Natrelle® Breast Implants are available by prescription only.