

**RESULTS:** Over a 24-months, 32 patients met inclusion criteria (1M, 31F), with an average age of 35 (range 20–60; SD = 11.4). Comorbidities included 4 current smokers, 2 patients with hypertension, and 1 with diabetes. Average BMI was 29 (range 22–38, SD = 4.4). Procedures included abdominoplasty (n= 21), liposuction (n=14), buttock augmentation (n= 10), and breast augmentation (n=6), with several patients having combined procedures. Patients presented with complications an average of 4.2 weeks after their procedure (range 0.9 – 12.9; SD = 3.1). Twenty-one patients presented with infections, 6 had an abscess, and 5 presented with wound dehiscence. Four of the nine patients who were surveyed were not pleased with their results and 5 would not go abroad again for subsequent procedures. The average cost of treating the complications was \$18,211 with an estimated total cost to the US health care system of 1.33 billion dollars. The main payer group was Medicaid.

**CONCLUSION:** Complications from patients seeking aesthetic procedures abroad will increase as medical tourism continues to grow. We believe patients interested in cosmetic surgery should be encouraged to have cosmetic surgery in the US to improve patient outcomes and satisfaction while at the same time economically advantageous to both the patient and plastic surgeons. Further studies are needed to determine if complication rates are truly higher compared to the US.

## Brazilian Buttocks: Fat Grafting Technique Standardization

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**BACKGROUND:** The buttocks is considered one of the main expressions of feminine beauty and sensuality, Aristotle said that the rounded shape of the buttocks was the most beautiful form of the human body. The demand for aesthetic procedures in order to improve the appearance of this region is increasing more and more, this surely is a booming segment of plastic surgery.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS:** The author presents a standardization methodology for gluteal fat grafting. Fat collection is done in a closed system using a PAL<sup>1,2</sup> (Vibro-liposuction). Fat grafting is also done assisted by the PAL device with an adapter specially developed, that permits to connect it to any cannula. Reinjection is done using a system developed by the author that permits the reinjection without fat manipulation. Reducing the risk of exogenous contamination. The procedure is performed by dividing

the gluteus in five subunits (upper, central, medial, lateral and bottom). Grafting is carried out homogeneously in a proportion of (2: 3: 1: 1: 1 cc, respectively). We end the procedure with the treatment of possible asymmetries or alterations, diagnosed preoperatively, which require over-correction in any of these segments. To analyze the effectiveness of this methodology we studied 85 consecutively patients submitted to fat grafting using this technique, evaluating its reproducibility, symmetric, safety, complications, volume maintenance and patient satisfaction compared to traditional fat grafting.

**RESULTS:** This Brazilian Butt lift methodology allows us to perform the procedure with more comfort, safety and confidence since the procedure is very homogeneous, and easily reproducible. There were no cases of complications such as seroma, infection, lipo necrosis, skin necrosis, embolism or others. The absorption of fat shows up less than 10% of the volume (measurements are done using ultrasound), but it still needing a longer follow up to confirm this result. All patients are satisfied with the appearance of their buttocks, reporting improvement in the form, consistency, projection, angulation of the gluteus, small ptosis and in the quality of the skin. which has done the demand for this procedure increase by 300% in my private practice. We also observed that this standardization has made teaching this procedure for residents, much easier, making them more confident to perform and permitting them to obtain good results even with little experience.

## REFERENCES:

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## Implementation of the AkademiKliniken Method of Subpectoral Breast Augmentation with Anatomic, Highly Cohesive Silicone Gel Implants: The First 620 Consecutive Cases

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