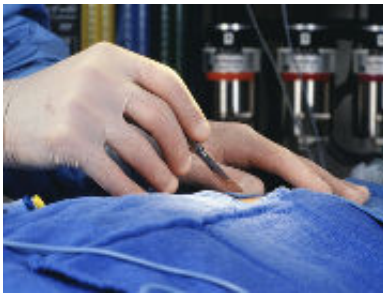


# In plastic surgery, complications highest for abdominoplasty

November 6 2015

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(HealthDay)—Abdominoplasty is linked with more major complications than other types of cosmetic surgery, researchers report in the November issue of *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*.

For the study, researchers analyzed data from 2008 to 2013 from an insurance program that covers [cosmetic surgery](#) complications.

Major complications occurred in 4 percent of abdominoplasties, compared with 1.4 percent of other types of cosmetic surgery. Most common major complications were hematoma, infection, [venous thromboembolism](#), and pulmonary dysfunction. The risk of major complications was 50 percent higher when patients had other [cosmetic procedures](#) at the same time. Those who were male, obese, or aged 55 or older were also at increased risk. The risk was lower if the procedure

was performed in an office-based surgical suite rather than in a hospital or surgical center.

"Although the overall incidence of major complications is low, such complications can result in a potentially devastating cosmetic outcome and pose a significant financial burden on the patient and surgeon," the authors write.

**More information:** [Full Text](#)

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