

Labiaplasty

Labiaplasty is a surgical procedure to improve the outward appearance - and to correct misshapeness or irregularities - of the labia minora or majora. Women with large labia can sometimes experience pain during intercourse, and can possibly even feel discomfort in their everyday life. This may also be a cause of embarrassment for some patients.

PROCEDURE: The surgery is an outpatient surgery typically performed under general anesthesia. The procedure lasts about one to two hours. There are several techniques that can be used to reduce the labia minora. These include simply trimming the excess tissue, removing a wedge-shaped section of tissue, and removing the epithelium (top layer) of a section of the labia while keeping the underlying tissue intact. In some cases, a combination of techniques will be done.

RECOVERY: After surgery, the patient will wear a tampon to absorb any drainage, and to protect the area from moisture. Patients can expect some swelling and discomfort for one to two weeks following the procedure. Strenuous activity should be avoided for two to three weeks following the treatment. Most women return to work after a few days. Sexual activity can be resumed around four weeks.

COMPLICATIONS: Complications are rare, but can include scarring, changes in sensation and/or pigmentation (skin color), asymmetry, infection, or wound separation or dehiscence.



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