

# MELANIE PRINCE, MD

PLASTIC SURGERY

## Nicotine Policy

Smoking patients, patients who use other nicotine products, and patients exposed to second-hand smoke, experience a decreased healing capacity after surgery. The complications these patients are at increased risk for after surgery include:

- Loss of skin, nipples or tummy skin after a breast lift, breast reduction, or tummy tuck surgery
- Infections
- Death of fat cells (fat necrosis), causing hard lumps
- Delayed wound healing
- Thick, wide scars
- Blood clots, which can be fatal
- Increased pain
- Permanent small vessel damage adding risk even if you quit
- Loss of breast implants
- Life-threatening complications like stroke, heart attack, blood clots, and pneumonia.
- Complications from or under anesthesia

We require that all patients completely avoid nicotine, any nicotine-containing products, and second-hand smoke a minimum of 6 weeks before surgery and up to 6 weeks after surgery. No nicotine or nicotine-containing products can be in your system during this time. These products include:

- Cigarettes
- Cigars, Little Cigars, Cigarillos
- Dissolvable Nicotine Products: Lozenges, mints, strips, or sticks
- Electronic Cigarettes
- Smokeless Tobacco Products: Chewing tobacco, moist snuff
- Waterpipes
- Nicotine Patches
- Nicotine Gum
- Marijuana rolled in cigar paper
- Second-Hand Smoke from any of the above

  
Initial

I understand all patients will be nicotine tested. If the test is positive, my surgery will be cancelled, all money will be forfeited, and the surgery may not be rescheduled.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_