

'Chinplants' a hot nip-tuck trend

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Chin implants are the fastest growing cosmetic surgery procedures, a trend plastic surgeons say likely was prompted by the proliferation of video chatting and aging baby boomers' efforts to be successful at work.

Chin augmentation increased more than breast augmentation, Botox and liposuction together last year, according to new figures from the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. It was up in all demographic groups, with the rate higher in men than women, and greatest in patients age 40 and up. (See chart, below.)

"The chin and jawline are among the first areas to show signs of aging," ASPS President Dr. Malcolm Z. Roth said. "We also know that as more people see themselves on video chat technology, they may notice that their jawline is

not as sharp as they want it to be. Chin implants can make a dramatic difference."

Marilyn Monroe is among celebrities thought to have had a chin implant. To see others and examples of prominent people considered to have outstanding chins in the view of a plastic surgeon, [click through these photos.](#)

Dr. Darrick Antell, a New York plastic surgeon, told The Orange County Register, "Many of my patients who have had chin work hear comments like, 'Have you been working out lately?' I think that sums it up well. And you can't diet and exercise your way to a stronger chin. You either have it, or you don't."

Antell said in the ASPS news release, "The chin has long been used as a basis for judgment of human character. We may perceive someone with a strong prominent chin to automatically be more aggressive, athletic and decisive. This is true of both men and women."

Chin implants are done under local anesthesia, he says, and patients are back to work within 3 days.

The plastic surgery web site [RealSelf.com](#) pegged the average cost of a chin implant at \$4,671. Dr. Ali Sajjadian of Newport Beach is quoted on their site as saying depending on the geographic area of the country and the doctor's expertise, the cost can range from \$4,000 to \$7,000.

The site also has a page on possible complications. Among the plastic surgeons weighing in is Dr. Paul Nassif (who you may have seen on "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills"). He says patients need to be

aware of such potential problems as infection, nerve damage, lip dysfunction and implant rejection or movement.

Some other cosmetic procedures that had increases in 2011, according to the ASPS:

- Lip augmentation: 49%
- Cheek implants: 47%
- Laser skin resurfacing 9%
- Soft tissue fillers 7%
- Facelift: 5%

Category	'Chinplants' in 2011	2011 vs. 2010
Overall	20,680	71% increase
Women	10,087	66% increase
Men	10,593	76% increase
20-29 years	2,750	68% increase
30-39 years	2,587	69% increase
40-54 years	5,075	77% increase
55 and over	8,459	