



Questions for Explant Surgery consultation

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Surgeon background and experience

- How many explants have you performed?
- Do you have microsurgery training?
- Do you guarantee full removal of capsules (enbloc/total capsulectomy)? Can you put this in writing?
- How often do you usually achieve enbloc (80% of the time? 50%?)

Surgery

- Where will the surgery be? At a hospital or private clinic?
- How long will surgery take?
- Will you take photos (multiple angles) of the implants and capsules once they are removed?
- Do you put drains in?
- If you don't use drains, why?
- If you do, what percentage of patients usually end up with them?
- How long are they usually in for? Who will remove them?
- Do you think I will need a lift?
- Will any foreign materials be used, such as mesh? (Foreign objects can cause an auto-immune response similar to implants, and continue to make you sick)
- Can you even out asymmetry?
- If I have a rupture and silicone has leached into the chest, will you try remove as much as possible?
- What should I expect in terms of size of explant incision scars?
- Do you have pre-surgery directions for avoiding supplements, medications, foods?
- Will I receive antibiotics during the surgery? Should I take a probiotic after surgery?
- Can I see before and after photos of previous patients?

Post surgery

- Will you send me home with post-op instructions?
- What should I be concerned about after surgery and when should I call you?
- Is there an after-hours number I can call after surgery if I have any issues?
- Will you return my implants to me if I want them? If you plan to pursue anything legally your surgeon will need to seal them in a bag and a chain of custody will need to be maintained.
- Do you send the capsules to pathology for testing?
- If you have textured implants: Will CD30 BIA-ALCL testing be done to rule out BIA-ALCL? This is important if you have textured implants.
- How many follow up appointments will I have? When are they?
- How long until I can safely drive?
- Do you send me home with a bra, or do I need to purchase one ahead of time?
- Do you have post-surgery directions for compression, wound care, sleeping, and massage?
- When can I shower?
- How long should I not lift my arms?
- Can I get a copy of my operative notes after surgery?
- Will the stitches be dissolvable, or will they need to be removed?
- Is there a charge for that?
- How long will it take for my incisions to close?
- What if I am not happy with my results?