PREFACE

Cosmetic Surgery in the Ethnic Population: Special Considerations and Procedures

This issue of *Seminars in Plastic Surgery* is dedicated to the changes that have been observed in

the past decade with regard to the increased interest in aesthetic surgery among non-Caucasian ethnic groups. The emergence of this population of patients requesting facial and body contouring procedures has enlightened the modern day aesthetic surgeon to critical differences between these groups and their Caucasian counterparts. Our goal with this issue is to provide an introduction to this expanding subset of aesthetic surgery.

In this issue, we will begin by addressing the socioeconomic impact of this developing subculture. There will then be a discussion of the inherent anatomic and structural differences that have been historically identified between cultures. Finally, with the contributions of the invited authors, we will detail specific procedures that are commonly performed or requested by non-Caucasian ethnic groups. Most importantly, we hope to effectively disseminate information about this subculture that will prevent morbidity that may be caused by the use of “traditional” techniques that are commonly used in the Caucasian population. Ultimately, we hope to provide a basis of understanding of emerging techniques that will result in sustaining aesthetic rejuvenation that addresses the patient’s specific desires without altering their cultural identity.

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Cosmetic Surgery in the Ethnic Population: Special Considerations and Procedures; Guest Editor, Jamal M. Bullocks, M.D.

Semin Plast Surg 2009;23:157–158. Copyright © 2009 by Thieme Medical Publishers, Inc., 333 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001, USA. Tel: +1(212) 584-4662.

DOI 10.1055/s-0029-1224792. ISSN 1535-2188.