



### To Our Breast Reconstruction Patients:

All breast reconstruction procedures, whether immediate or delayed, are typically done in five phases over 3-5 different operations. **Patients who present for a delayed reconstruction may be rescheduled to accommodate an immediate reconstruction patient who still has active cancer.** The main phases of breast reconstruction are:

- Phase 1: Breast mound reconstruction
- Phase 2: Revision of the breast mound and/or the abdomen
- Phase 3: Matching procedures on the opposite breast if applicable
- Phase 4: Creation of the nipple
- Phase 5: Micro-pigmentation tattooing of the nipple areolar complex

**\*Note :** Phase 3 is sometimes done simultaneous to mound creation in phase 1 and depending on the type of revisions needed, the nipple reconstruction may be moved to phase 2 which will mean 3-5 total operations. Additional operations may be needed for further revisions if indicated.

All stages of your breast reconstruction surgery have a 90 day global period according to the American Medical Association guidelines. This global period ensures 90 days of recovery and postoperative care. It also implies that you should not have additional surgery during the recovery period unless it is medically required by your surgeon.

**In addition, insurance companies require a letter of medical necessity before your revision surgery is approved. This process may take up to eight weeks. We are unable to reserve a surgery date until your insurance company has approved surgery.**

Depending on your insurance plan year, your deductible and co-insurance responsibilities may vary. Should you have any questions regarding these policies please feel free to contact your individual insurance carrier or our surgery scheduling coordinator.

**I have read and understand the above information.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date