

OTOPLASTY

Surgery on Ears Aids Personality

By SHARON BROWN

Plastic surgeons have concluded that otoplasty—an operation that reshapes the ears—can help young children avoid “personality scars” later in life.

Dr. William T. Berkeley of Charlotte, N.C., said here Friday plastic surgeons are more and more “pinning back the ears” of young children who may suffer taunts and ridicule from other children.

“This sometimes causes a child to withdraw or become belligerent, developing harmful personality traits at an early age,” said the plastic surgeon. “This danger can be averted by the operation.”

HE SAID protruding ears result when the “folding process” of the ear does not develop to completion. The surgery brings the ear around to the shape it should have been in the first place.

Plastic surgeons perform the operation more often on boys, as young as 4½. Girls, Dr. Berkeley explained, usually don’t feel the problem until they are in their teens and begin wearing their hair up.

He said the average age for the operation is 6 to 7, because “when it’s done early, the anti-social personality traits don’t have time to become fixed.”

Dr. Berkeley said, however, the procedure works just as well on adults.

“We remove a square of skin from the ear and produce the outer fold from the back, completing the rolling and folding of the ear in the normal manner,” he said.

The surgeon said results of the operation have been so successful in the past decade, “no one can ever tell the ear has been operated on.”

THE PROCESS involves about one-and-a-half hours for the patient on the operating table, then wearing of bandages on the ears for five days.

Dr. Berkeley said the operation has become so common, he now performs as many of these as on cleft lips and palates.

The North Carolina surgeon gave a critique on otoplasty Friday to some 100 plastic surgeons attending the ninth annual meeting of the Southeastern Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons at the Marriott Motor Hotel.

Surgeons

Fight Battle Of Bustline

ATLANTA (AP) — Augmentation mammoplasty is a big thing in New York, Los Angeles and Miami, and it’s increasing in Mobile, Ala., and Charlotte, N. C.

In Europe, however, reduction mammoplasty is “in.”

In all areas, physicians at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons also said, women wanting their bosoms changed are not always strippers, but quite often are housewives.

The “ideal candidate,” the physicians reported, is a happily married, psychologically stable housewife or business woman.

Safe Operation

Augmentation mammoplasty was discussed here Friday by physicians who reported in papers on the procedure of inserting a silicone container of “soft, mobile gelatinous material” into small breasts.

The physicians said such operations, which seem to be on the increase, are safe if done properly.

All women who want their breasts enlarged, the physicians said, are not granted their wish. Doctors said they refuse to handle about half of the requests.

Patients are carefully selected to be sure they are not neurotic or seeking the operation on “a sudden romantic whim.”

Quite often, the physicians said, husbands must approve such surgery before it is performed.

50 in Charlotte

Dr. William T. Berkeley of Charlotte said he has done about 50 operations in his city. Dr. Byron E. Green of Mobile said the breast operations are in great demand in his city.

Dr. Hower I. Gordon of Miami estimated a 15 to 20 percent increase each year in his city.

A native Hungarian, Dr. Gustave Aufrecht of New York City, said, “In America the women want bigger and bigger breasts. In Europe they ask me to make them smaller.”

The surgeons also reported: —Women who become mothers after breast enlargement still can breast-feed babies.

—Women are encouraged to seek normal bust lines as opposed to “highly exaggerated curves.”

—Within six weeks, even professional golfers, swimmers and tennis players can resume regular activity.

—Scars are minute.

—Costs range from \$300 to \$1,200, including hospital charges.

Dr. Aufrecht To Address Surgery Meet

Dr. Gustave Aufrecht of New York City, one of the nation’s outstanding plastic surgeons and a pioneer in the field of cosmetic surgery, will speak during the ninth annual meeting of the Southeastern Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons in Atlanta.

Some 100 leading plastic surgeons are expected to attend the four-day affair which begins Wednesday at the Marriott Motor Hotel.

Dr. J. D. Tanner of Atlanta will explain and demonstrate the use of the mesh dermatome, his revolutionary development for skin graft, during the meeting.

Dr. Charles E. Horton of Norfolk is president of the association and Dr. Francis A. Marzoni of Birmingham is president-elect.

Other Atlantans scheduled to speak are Dr. Carl R. Hartrampf, Dr. W. E. Hugger and Dr. Allen Macris.

Thursday addresses will be made by Dr. M. J. Jurkiewicz, Gainesville, Fla., Dr. James H. Hendrix, Jackson, Miss., Dr. S. R. Lewis, Galveston, Tex., and Dr. A. M. Moore, Lexington, Ky., and Dr. Erle E. Peacock, Chapel Hill, N.C.