

Large Volume Fat Graft For Breast Augmentation

ABSTRACT

After numerous experiments with free-fat transfer since 1893 [1], many promising methods and results of large-volume fat grafts have been published recently [2]. A common disadvantage was the time of the procedure and a lack of proof of efficiency. In 2007 BEAULI™ method was developed with the (Berlin autologous lipotransplantation) a new and reliable procedure to collect larger amounts of transplantable fatty tissue. It was evaluated in a prospective clinical study with 85 patients in 2 centers in Germany, the overall number of transplantations amounting to 216 treated breasts. Indications were general lack of breast volume, either genuine or acquired in the course of surgical procedures. The fat was harvested with the BEAULI™ method, which consists in general of the harvest of very small fat particles by means of water-assisted liposuction (body-jet®, human med AG, Germany) and reinjection of the fat after separation from superfluous water by means of the LipoCollector®.

All procedures were performed in a standardized pattern, measurements were taken preoperatively, at day 1 postoperative, after 1 week, 4 weeks, 3 months, 6 months and then to be continued yearly. An MRI of the breasts was taken preop and 6 months postoperatively, the longest follow-up is 30 months. Operation time was (on average) 1.5h. In every case a definite increase of the volume of the fatty layer in the treated areas was observed. After implant removal, satisfaction was usually reached after only a single procedure, for complete reconstruction after cancer surgery 4-5 grafting sessions were necessary. An extension of the skin envelope as well as improvement of existing scars were observed.