

UK Report – Professional Standards for Cosmetic Practice

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The standards, issued by the Royal College of Surgeons (RCS), state that financial deals such as time limited discounts should be banned and stringent psychological assessment promoted. They lay out the professional duty practitioners have to their patients, including the need to ensure they have a clear understanding of the risks of the procedure, outlining consequent aftercare and being transparent about costs from the outset.

Developed by a working group of key professionals including surgeons, psychiatrists, psychologists and dermatologists. The working group cites 2010's National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death (NCEPOD) report On the face of it, which revealed a lack of consistent professional standards in cosmetic surgical practice, as the impetus for these standards. More recently, the problems with PIP breast implants exposed further shortcomings within the industry as many women were caused unnecessary distress as they struggled to track down and access their medical records to determine which implant they had received.