

Challenges in Abdominoplasty, Management of Difficult Cases: Review and Surgical Classification

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INTRODUCTION Big abdominal deformities or abdominal surgical sequelae constitutes a surgical challenge constantly defying a surgeons expertise and techniques. The difficulties approaching these patients are caused principally by poor skin tissue in the abdominal region, where multiple scars, adhesences, retractions, traumatic and iatrogenic injuries can be found. This work will show different approaches to successfully classify and manage some of these difficult cases maintaining an aesthetic component to it.

MATERIALS AND METHODS The authors revise complex abdominal wall deformities, propose a classification for them and present three cases considered for surgical reconstruction, which will be addressed not only throughout the anterior abdominal wall, but by modeling of the whole body contour.

RESULTS In spite of established treatments, abdominal aesthetic surgery needs a global approach relative to body contouring. Treating the whole thoraco-abdominal area in order to reconstruct anterior wall deformities will result in an improved harmony of the patient's body contour.

CONCLUSION The cases here presented require the surgeon to part from established surgical approaches, modifying and incorporating unusual techniques so that the final outcome exhibits refined and aesthetic results.

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