

A WORK OF ART

That's how Dr Leslie Kuek sees each of his patients. He relishes the challenge of finding the best solution for each of their problems

"The training to be a plastic surgeon is vigorous," insists Dr Leslie Kuek. But within that vigour is space for creativity. "For a nose that needs reconstruction, I can opt to use the patient's tissue, cartilage, ribs, artificial material, or implants," he describes. "The choices are tremendous if you have the skills to do it."

Dr Kuek obtained his advanced surgery degrees from the Royal Colleges of Edinburgh and Glasgow, winning the Young Surgeon's Award along the way. He honed his skill in plastic surgery in University of Tokyo and Taipei Chang Gung Hospital, then worked in SGH's Department of Plastic Surgery & Cosmetic Surgery, where he was instrumental in starting breast and facial paralysis reconstruction. He then started his own practice. "I've been in this business for 25 years, so I get brickbats and bouquets. Which of us has not stepped on other people's toes, intentionally or unintentionally?" Yet, he says he has a very good reputation. "But you have to do your own research."

Dr Kuek is excited about the potential of stem cell technology. "We would be able to create skin, muscle, bone and cartilage. If we can regenerate these cells, you can delay or even reverse aging."

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Any doctor who tells you he has never had any complaints is either lying through his teeth or hasn't worked enough!

ABOUT ME

- 1 Your favourite thing about your speciality**
Every patient is like a work of art. My challenge is to always create something better out of what I have, whether it's reconstructive surgery or cosmetic treatment. That's what gives me a buzz.
- 2 One factor that sets your practice apart**
We treat every patient as a human being. We give patients our 110% care about their welfare, and do our best for them.
- 3 A false belief about plastic surgery you've heard**
Breast implants will lead to breast cancer.
- 4 The next big thing in your field**
Stem cells. I just read that somebody has triggered the mechanism for stem cells to become heart cells and reverse the effects of heart damage and heart failure.
- 5 Three words you live by personally and professionally**
Integrity, honesty, skill.
- 6 Most common procedure for men**
Eye bag removal. They look at least five to 10 years younger after.
- 7 Most common procedure for women**
An ageing face — from sagging jowls to droopy eyelids — concerns mature women. Younger women want double eyelids, sharper noses and chins, and breast enhancements.
- 8 A procedure you wish were easier on patients**
The most tragic is reconstructing a woman's face after an acid attack. It's so challenging and difficult to treat. That's why I say stem cell is important, because then I can make new skin.



Dr Leslie Kuek
Plastic Surgeon

Credentials

MBBS (Singapore)
FRCS (Edinburgh)
FRCS (Glasgow)
FAMS (Plastic Surgery)

Member of:

- Singapore Society of Cosmetic (Aesthetics) Surgeons (past president)
- Singapore Association of Plastic Surgeons (past president)
- Academy of Medicine, Singapore
- American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons
- Oriental Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery
- International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery
- Society for Laser & Medicine, Singapore
- Association for Burn Injuries, Singapore
- Cleft Lip & Palate Association of Singapore
- Singapore Society for Head & Neck Cancer Surgery

Connect

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Areas of Expertise

- Breast enlargement
- Body-to-breast contouring
- Liposculpture
- Tummy tuck
- Eye lift
- Rhinoplasty