

Reporter: A Question Of Style



Celebrity stylist Karen Ng answers your fashion queries



PHOTO BY CHING

Q I've been thinking of plastic surgery lately. It seems almost every celebrity has had something done. It's looking to be a worthwhile investment in the our overall presentation. So who are the best underrated surgeons? For which procedures? What about doing it in cheaper places like Thailand and Malaysia? It seems their lower cost doesn't necessarily mean lower quality! And what's your stand on letting others know? Is it a secret best kept to ourselves or should we be honest? What are some good excuses for the downtime involved? Lin

A Dear Lin, I'm definitely with you on enhancing and perfecting ourselves through plastic surgery. In this day and age, advanced technology and breakthroughs in surgery techniques allow us a peace of mind when we choose to go under the knife. Unquestionably, the doctor you choose to do your surgery is the most important of all considerations. If you ask me, I will choose the best, and most well known of doctors; cost is secondary to me. However, if you prefer the underrated good plastic surgeons, I have heard that Dr Erik Ang and Dr Harry Fok at Mount Elizabeth Hospital as well as Dr Colin Tham at Asia Health Partners are all quite good, but still relatively unknown. For non-invasive aesthetic treatment like botox and fillers, Dr Rohan Mendis at Gleneagles Medical Centre could be a good choice.

Having surgery done overseas isn't a good idea unless you have spare time for a recovery period as well as any post-surgery appointments. In addition, you might want to take into account considerations such as the inconvenience to family members who want to take care of you. Believe me, Singapore plastic surgeons are very professional and highly skilled. Korea is a good choice if you still insist on going abroad for your surgery. My advice is to avoid telling friends about your surgery. My experience is that most people you tell will not keep it a secret, and the likelihood is that your circle of friends will soon know what you have done. If anyone notices the difference, tell them that you have gotten an image consultant (you can name me!) to revamp you, or say your makeup techniques have improved, or perhaps you did botox or fillers for fun. They will be puzzled for a moment but it will be quickly forgotten. Of course, the best thing to do is to stay out of sight during your downtime, so you don't need to think of any excuses. Good luck!

Style: senior editor Daniel Goh says: I agree with Karen that you should actually seek a reputable doctor, think of the cost if something should go wrong! It is your face, you know. If you are on a budget, maybe you might want to save money by not doing any surgery at all. Changing your hairstyle is free. I also want to add that while I consider physical beauty to be of the utmost importance, and I've said this many a time, I would like you to consider inner beauty for now. I'm all for improvement, but I'm also all for individuality. All a doctor can give you is a standard idea of what beauty is. True beauty, however resides in being true to yourself, having confidence and carrying yourself with style. Unlike Karen, however, I think that if you do anything to your face, you should be quite frank about this and simply state facts. Nothing encourages wild rumours to circulate as lying about something as commonplace as a little nip and tuck. ■

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