

VENICE PLASTIC SURGERY

A.E. HAAS, M.D.

Cosmetic, Reconstructive, Face, Breast, and Hand Surgery

Be Honest

The other day a new patient in the wound clinic came in for a repair. He had an open wound for months and now wanted somebody to fix it, whatever it took. He was planning on a vacation and did not want to be tending this non-healing wound. It seemed reasonable to excise the wound and stitch it up. It was clean and ready for the repair phase. We set him up for surgery.

We indirectly found out he was having heart trouble and recently had an abnormal heart catheterization. He neglected to inform us of this problem. He wanted the surgery and did not want to risk a delay because of his heart problem. We caught him red handed.

People do this. It is not the first time a patient did not give us a full medical history even though we asked for it. Sometimes these patients manipulate doctors to get what they want. I have been fooled on occasion but I have gotten better at being a detective.

It is not worth the risk of injury or death so you can go on vacation. It seems obvious to you and me but many people lack common sense.

As it turns out the patient was cleared for surgery at the last minute. We got a hold of the cardiac doctor and the recent tests. They were abnormal but not that bad and the risk for this type of minimal surgery was acceptable.

Be honest with your doctor. Do not hide anything. Patients do not know what is truly important and what is not so they should give a complete medical history. Not all things can be done at your convenience when it comes to your health. Timing is important. Some things should be cared for now and some things later. Talk to your doctor and listen as well. The doctor - patient relationship is a two way street.

**The above represents the opinion of A. E. Haas, M.D.
Venice Plastic Surgery, Venice Wound Center, Lakeside Medical Center**

Just call us directly. No referral needed unless required by your insurance company

836 Sunset Lake Blvd # 103, Venice, FL 34292
(941) 492-4775