



Dr Mark Van Der Velde

M.B.Ch.B (UCT), M.Med (Plast), FCS (SA)

Specialist Plastic, Reconstructive and Maxillofacial Surgeon

"I pride myself in being a good judge of character and I believe the understanding of a patient's motivation for surgery helps me to help them make the right choices."

A TEAM APPROACH

Being mindful of a patient's needs, Dr Van der Velde says he is a strong proponent of the synergism that can be achieved with a team approach. "I regularly consult fellow plastic surgeons, other surgical disciplines, physicians, anaesthetists, neurologists, therapists and integrative practitioners," he says.

Dr Van der Velde will only offer surgery to patients who he feels are fit for a surgical procedure and have realistic expectations. "I will only operate if I believe that a procedure is appropriate," he adds. "If not, I will give advice on a more appropriate course of action."

THE IMPORTANCE OF HONEST COMMUNICATION

Dr Van der Velde's philosophy includes a belief in all-encompassing honest communication between surgeon and patient, and in using safe, trusted surgical procedures.

"I am wary of the 'Fantastic New Procedure!' until surgical science and time have proven the procedure worthy," he says. "I don't cut corners to cut cost," he adds. "I always work with highly professional anaesthesiologists in approved operating theatres, and I consult regularly with my plastic and cosmetic surgeon colleagues about problem cases, with the patient's consent, which ensures the best clinical outcome."

SPECIAL INTERESTS

Dr Van der Velde's special interests include all breast work, abdominoplasty, liposculpture and facial work, with unique interests in calf and buttock augmentation.

"My other fields of focus include all trauma reconstructive surgery, skin cancers, breast reconstruction. I have a special interest in congenital hand surgery," he says. "I am also involved in training new plastic surgery consultants at the Red Cross Children's Hospital."

CREDENTIALS

- APRASSA (The Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons of Southern Africa)
- ISAPS (The International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery)
- HPCSA (The Health Professional Council of South Africa)
- SASSH (The South African Society for Surgery of the Hand)
- BIGOSA (The Breast Interest Group of South Africa)
- The Irish Medical Council
- Plastic Surgery Examiner for the CMSA (College of Medicine of South Africa)