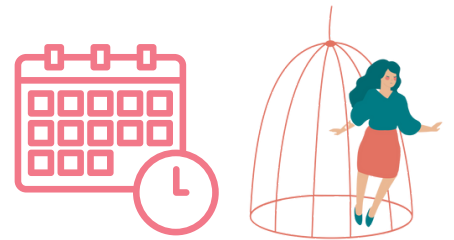


Booking Lipoedema Surgery Process



1

Scan this QR code and complete the surgery date request. Wait for a definitive date. You will be contacted around 6 months before an available date. The wait list is currently around 18 months.

<https://naveensomia.snapforms.com.au/form/lipoedema-surgery-date-request-jan-23>



2

Once a date has been assigned you will have another consultation with Dr Somia and pre-operative testing.

3

Once surgery has been okayed to go ahead a \$1050 non refundable deposit is due within 2 weeks of accepting a date. The balance of Dr Somia's fees is due 3 weeks before surgery and the anaesthetist and hospital fees the week before surgery.

4

Please do not share on social channels that you have been offered a date to avoid upsetting others on the waitlist.

Help reduce wait times (currently 18mths)

- Let us know if your circumstances change and you need to postpone.
- Be prompt in responding to the offer of a date. If the date offered doesn't work for you let us know so another patient can take your place.
- Limit waitlist update requests.

Thank you for your help.

logistics to consider

You will need someone to help you for the first week with daily activities.

How long will I need off work? This depends on the type of work you do. If you work in an office environment you can return to work or work from home when you feel well and if you are able to go for short walks regularly. Most people take 4 weeks off work. If you work in a manual capacity you may wish to take more time off work while you recover ie 6 weeks or more. Do you have any special projects around that time or overseas travel planned?

If I live outside Sydney how long do I have to stay? You must have a travel companion to assist you with travel and post surgery care. Expect to stay overnight in hospital. For patients who live within a 1-2 hour flight distance from Sydney you can usually travel on Day or 3 after surgery. For patients further away ie WA or NT we recommend a stay of one week in Sydney. Please discuss your travel plans with us if you are outside of Sydney.

What is the investment? As at 2/11/23 Legs: Approximately \$22,000 for surgeon, anaesthetist and hospital. Additional costs to consider are compression garments \$800 per set. Other considerations are MLD therapy treatments, compression pumps, medications, blood tests etc and a buffer in the event of a complication. (\$2500-3000)

Arms: Approximately \$15,000 for surgeon, anaesthetist, hospital and garments. Pumps and mld therapy are not usually required for arm surgery. A formal hospital estimate will be issued 3 months before.

Can I claim from medicare and fund or access my superannuation? Unfortunately, at this time Liposuction treatment for lipoedema is considered by medicare and health funds a cosmetic procedure and cannot be claimed. Please note our area of specialist is lipoedema not lymphoedema and we do not perform skin excision at the same time as liposuction with the exception of arm or brachioplasty (this may attract rebates).

To apply for early release of your superannuation you must be experiencing pain and/or mobility issues of the legs. Withdrawal of super is considered income and is taxed accordingly. Consider this option carefully before applying. Only one surgery can be applied for at a time and our practice policy is to assist you to complete your superannuation application once a surgery date is confirmed.

No day is wasted between diagnosis and surgical treatment view waiting times as an opportunity to fully explore conservative management and prepare the body.