Why Me Clinic - Melbourne Cosmetic Surgery and Medicine

Canonical: https://www.meclinic.com.au/why-the-me-clinic/

Details:

When you choose a clinic, you should be able to check what it promises. Here is what you can ask of us.

And because a commitment nobody can test is just another adjective, each one below comes with how to hold us to it — a specific thing you can look for, here or at any other clinic.

1. Every practitioner is named, with their registration

You will find a name, a role and an AHPRA registration number for every practitioner on this site — and you can verify any of them in under a minute at ahpra.gov.au .

Specialist Plastic Surgeons: Dr Gary Kode (MED0001405964), Dr Amir Tadros (MED0002302612), Dr Mark Doyle (MED0001375519)

Cosmetic Doctors: Dr Gordon Ku (MED0001169203), Dr Kwok Hao Lie (MED0001843582), Dr Luis Torres Villacorta (MED0002049692)

Vein medicine: Dr Tim French (MED0001790529)

Aesthetic Nurse: Daniel Silpaps . Aesthetician: Michelle Casey

We use these titles precisely, and that includes being precise about their limits:

“Specialist Plastic Surgeon” is a protected title requiring Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

There is no AHPRA specialty of “cosmetic surgery” , and we do not claim one. “Cosmetic Doctor” describes an area of practice.

Phlebology is not an AHPRA-recognised specialty in Australia; doctors practising in it hold registration in a recognised field plus additional training in venous medicine.

“Aesthetician” is not an AHPRA-registered title. Aestheticians and dermal therapists are not registered health professions in Australia, which is why their work here is non-medical and supervised within a medical practice.

See cosmetic surgery rule changes .

How to hold us to it: pick any name above, search the number on the register, and check the registration type matches the title on this page. Then do it at every other clinic you are considering — and note which ones make it harder.

2. The least invasive option that will actually work

Our surgeons and doctors recommend the most minimally invasive treatment suitable for what you want to achieve — which sometimes means telling you a non-surgical treatment is enough, and sometimes means telling you that it is not, and that non-surgical treatment will not produce the result you are picturing.

Both of those conversations lose the clinic money in the short term. Both are the right conversation.

How to hold us to it: ask “what is the smallest thing that would help, and what would it and would it not do?” A useful answer names something cheaper than what you came in asking for, and explains where it stops.

3. Honest expectations, including when the answer is no

We tell people what is possible and what is not. Through the content on this site you will find limits stated plainly: scars are permanent, melasma recurs, deep acne scarring improves rather than disappears, results vary, and some people are not suitable candidates.

If a procedure will not give you what you are after — or if the reason you want it is not something surgery addresses — we would rather say so at consultation than afterwards.

How to hold us to it: ask “who is this a bad idea for, and am I one of them?” and “what does this look like if it goes averagely, not well?” A clinic that cannot describe an average result has not shown you enough of them.

4. Assessment before destruction

One clinical rule runs through everything on this site: a skin lesion that has not been assessed is not lasered, frozen or burned off. Those methods destroy the tissue, and if a lesion were an early melanoma there would be nothing left to send to pathology.

Anything of concern is excised whole and tested — accepting a scar in exchange for a diagnosis. See skin cancers .

How to hold us to it: if anyone anywhere offers to remove a mole with a laser without a histology report, ask what happens to the tissue. “It gets sent to pathology” and “it gets vaporised” are very different answers.

5. One accurate price, before you commit

Indicative prices are published on the procedure pages rather than hidden behind an enquiry form, and you are given one accurate written quote at consultation — not an estimate that grows later.

We also state what is not covered: We are not a no-gap provider . Where Medicare item numbers apply, we tell you which ones and what the expected out-of-pocket cost is.

How to hold us to it: a real quote names the surgeon’s fee, the anaesthetist, the facility or theatre, garments and dressings, every follow-up visit, and the policy on revision. A single figure is a number, not a quote. See pricing .

6. No testimonials, no manipulated images

Testimonials about regulated health services are prohibited in Australian advertising, and you will not find any here. Before and after photographs are of our own patients, taken under consistent conditions, and are shown in consultation where cases can be matched to your situation rather than selected to impress. See before and after .

How to hold us to it: in any gallery, find the light before you look at the face — the catchlight in the eyes and the direction of the shadows should match between frames. Then ask for the date of each image and how long after surgery the “after” was taken.

7. Experience, stated accurately

We have practised cosmetic medicine and surgery in Melbourne for over 35 years. Dr Gary Kode has performed more than 25,000 procedures across a career spanning more than three decades. More than 5,000 cosmetic eye procedures have been performed here since the 1980s.

Those are counts, not claims of superiority. We do not describe ourselves as the best, the safest or the leading anything, because those claims cannot be substantiated and are not permitted in advertising regulated health services.

How to hold us to it: ask how many of your procedure that surgeon performed in the last twelve months. A career total across all procedures is a different number and a less useful one. See our surgical experience .

What this clinic is not

Saying what we do not do is more informative than another list of what we do.

We are not a same-day clinic for cosmetic surgery. The law requires a referral, screening, at least two consultations and a cooling-off period, and we do not look for ways around that.

We do not run offers, packages or discounts on cosmetic procedures. Time-limited pricing on a medical decision is prohibited, and it is prohibited for a reason.

We are not a no-gap provider. There will be an out-of-pocket cost, and we will tell you what it is before you decide.

We do not treat everyone who asks. Some people are declined, and some are referred elsewhere.

We are not a substitute for your GP. Skin checks, general health and anything systemic belong with them, and we say so.

We do not publish outcome statistics we cannot define. No success rates, no satisfaction percentages.

Where to go from here

Depending on what you actually came to find out:

If you want to know…	Read
What questions to ask any clinic, including this one	Choosing the right practitioner
What the law requires before cosmetic surgery	Cosmetic surgery rule changes
How we decide what to offer and what to decline	Responsible cosmetic surgery
What can go wrong, and how often	Risks and complications
Whether to have surgery overseas	Risks of overseas cosmetic surgery
Who our practitioners are and what they hold	Our surgical experience
How to start earlier and do less later	Preventative cosmetic medicine
What things cost	Pricing
What happens at a first appointment	Consultation

What happens when something goes wrong

Every clinic’s best material is about good outcomes. The more useful question is what the arrangement is when an outcome is not good, and it is worth asking everywhere.

You are given an after-hours contact number before you leave, along with written aftercare naming the signs that need a call and the signs that need an emergency department.

Complications are managed here , not handed back to your GP with a letter.

The revision position is stated in the quote — what is included, what is not, and on what timeframe — rather than discussed for the first time when it is needed.

You can raise a concern directly , and if you are not satisfied, you can take it to AHPRA or to the Victorian Health Complaints Commissioner. We would rather you knew that than not.

Booking

Me Clinic, 4 Burke Road, Malvern East VIC 3145. Phone 1300 852 050 or (03) 9569 3511. Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am–5pm, Tuesday and Thursday 9am–6pm, Saturday 9am–2pm. Or use the online consultation form . Free parking under the building; Caulfield station is a five-minute walk.

Consultations as at September 2024, including GST: Specialist Plastic Surgeon $350, Cosmetic Doctor $150, vein consultation $230, skin assessment $50, mole removal consultation $150.

Individual results may vary. Any surgical or invasive procedure carries risks. Before proceeding you should seek a second opinion from an appropriately qualified health practitioner.

Common questions about Me Clinic

Why does this page not say you are the best?

Because superiority claims cannot be substantiated and are not permitted in advertising a regulated health service. What we publish instead are counts and commitments you can test.

How do I check a practitioner here?

Take any registration number on this page to ahpra.gov.au and confirm the registration type matches the title used. It takes under a minute.

Is “cosmetic surgeon” a specialty?

No. There is no AHPRA specialty of cosmetic surgery. The protected specialist title in this field is Specialist Plastic Surgeon.

Is phlebology a specialty?

No — it is not AHPRA-recognised in Australia. Doctors practising in it hold registration in a recognised field plus additional training in venous medicine.

Is “aesthetician” a registered title?

No. Aestheticians and dermal therapists are not registered health professions in Australia, which is why that work here is non-medical and supervised within a medical practice.

What does “least invasive option” mean in practice?

Sometimes being told a non-surgical treatment is enough; sometimes being told it is not, and will not give you the result you are picturing. Both conversations cost the clinic money in the short term.

Will you ever say no?

Yes. Some people are declined and some are referred elsewhere. If a procedure will not give you what you are after, we would rather say so at consultation than afterwards.

What is the rule about moles?

A skin lesion that has not been assessed is not lasered, frozen or burned off — those methods leave nothing to send to pathology. Anything of concern is excised whole and tested.

What should a quote contain?

The surgeon's fee, the anaesthetist, the facility, garments and dressings, every follow-up visit, and the revision policy. A single figure is a number, not a quote.

Are you a no-gap provider?

No. There will be an out-of-pocket cost, and you will be told what it is before you decide. Where Medicare item numbers apply we name them.

Why are there no patient testimonials?

Testimonials about regulated health services are prohibited in Australian advertising. Their absence is compliance, not an absence of satisfied patients.

How do I judge a before-and-after gallery?

Find the light before you look at the face — catchlights and shadow direction should match between frames — then ask for dates and how long after surgery the "after" was taken.

How should I read your experience figures?

As counts, not as claims of superiority. The more useful question is how many of your procedure that surgeon performed in the last twelve months.

Do you run specials?

No. Time-limited offers, packages and discounts on cosmetic procedures are prohibited, and for good reason.

Can I have surgery quickly?

Not for cosmetic surgery. A referral, screening, at least two consultations and a cooling-off period are required, and we do not look for ways around that.

What happens if something goes wrong?

You have an after-hours number and written aftercare before you leave, complications are managed here rather than handed to your GP, and the revision position is stated in the quote.

What if I am unhappy with how I am treated?

Raise it with us directly. If you are not satisfied, you can take it to AHPRA or the Victorian Health Complaints Commissioner.

What do consultations cost?

As at September 2024 including GST: Specialist Plastic Surgeon $350, Cosmetic Doctor $150, vein consultation $230, skin assessment $50, mole removal consultation $150.

Where are you and when are you open?

4 Burke Road, Malvern East VIC 3145. Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am–5pm, Tuesday and Thursday 9am–6pm, Saturday 9am–2pm. Phone 1300 852 050.