

A quality of life approach to breast reconstruction surgery

Lisette Hilton

"Whether the surgery is done with their own tissue or using some innovative approach using a breast implant, the goal is to offer the woman a natural look and feel and a result that fits in her lifestyle," he emphasizes.

Dermal matrix key to procedure

[Dr. Williams](#) uses AlloDerm (LifeCell Corporation) to achieve optimum results in breast implant reconstruction and augmentation.

By using an inferolateral AlloDerm sling, for which he sews a sheet of AlloDerm from the lower border of the pectoralis major muscle into the inframammary fold, he creates a hammock that holds implants or expanders and allows for a more natural breast droop. Using the human-derived tissue product allows [Dr. Williams](#) to avoid having to cover the implant with muscle on the chest wall.

His reconstructive patients are exceedingly grateful that he goes the extra mile.

"All reconstructive patients are immensely grateful - especially the ones who have had to live without a breast for a period of time." he says.

[Dr. Williams](#) spends an hour consultation with most breast reconstructive patients - 30 minutes more than most cosmetic patients.

Alternatives, choices

"I enjoy spending time talking with them, going over all the options and making sure they understand everything that is available to them.

"In breast reconstruction, there is a huge variety of options, each having different recovery periods, different outcomes and results. We custom fit a method to their lifestyle and expectations. I do not think you can do that in 30 minutes." he remarks.

[Dr. Williams](#) could have followed in his family's footsteps, in the oil industry. But a conversation, early on, with his father Larry Williams prompted him to look elsewhere. The elder Williams said that, rather than choosing a career where he would work to retire, he should choose a career for the love of work ... with money as a bonus.

"Pushing for a bottom line was not important to me. I was interested in interacting with people." he recalls.

While he thought, at first, that he would become a family practice physician, the lure of having no direct algorithm, or no cookie-cutter approach to treatment, turned him toward surgery.

"If a patient has a gallbladder problem, pretty much everyone in the country is going to manage that in the same way in terms of how they work it up and treat it. But if someone has a breast reconstruction problem or another cosmetic problem, there are a variety of correct ways to fix that problem.

"Plastic surgeons are probably the last true general surgeons. We operate from head to toe. We take care of kids with cleft lip and cleft palate, people who have lower extremity problems, hand injuries. facial trauma... That challenge appealed to me."

For more information, visit www.parkmeadowscosmeticsurgery.com