Personal Statement

Dr. Lee is committed to providing the highest quality care to his patients. When considering who to go for your plastic surgery there are several things to consider. First, is the training of your physician. The second, is the experience of your physician and the type/number of procedures he/she performs. The third, is the outcome of the procedures, which includes percentage of complications and patient satisfaction.

Training. Dr. Lee completed his undergraduate education at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he majored in Biology. He graduated Magna Cum Laude and Life Sciences College Honors, and Honors Collegium. He then went to medical at Stanford, where his interest in surgery and plastic surgery started. He worked with William Lineaweaver, MD, Editor-in-Chief of the Annals of Plastic Surgery Journal, who mentored and encouraged Dr. Lee to pursue a career in plastic surgery. After medical school, Dr. Lee went back to the University of California, Los Angeles, where he worked with some of the giants in plastic surgery including William Shaw, MD (microsurgery and breast reconstruction), Henry Kawamoto, MD (craniofacial plastic surgery), Malcolm Lesavy, MD (aesthetic plastic surgery), Bernard Markowitz, MD (aesthetic facial surgery), and Neil Jones (hand surgery), among others. It was Dr. William Shaw who was a particular mentor to Dr. Lee during his training and taught him the fundamentals of aesthetic and reconstructive breast surgery. Dr. Shaw was himself a pioneer in plastic surgery, and popularized the use of the gluteal (buttock) flap for breast reconstruction. Dr. Shaw was a world-renowned surgeon specializing in all types of microvascular breast reconstruction. Dr. Shaw retired in 2002, and Dr. Lee was one of the last surgeons to be trained by him. Training in Los Angeles, arguably one of the largest centers for aesthetic plastic surgery, Dr. Lee is able to combine an aesthetic touch to his reconstructive procedures to provide the best results possible. After residency training, Dr. Lee completed an advanced fellowship at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, where he further developed his skills in microsurgery, breast surgery, and cancer reconstruction. Dr. Lee worked at Texas A&M University, the Scott & White Clinic for 2 years to develop their breast reconstruction program before being recruited to come back to Stanford.

Dr. Lee's training encompasses all areas of plastic surgery both aesthetic and reconstructive, and he is able to combine the two to provide the highest quality plastic surgery procedures. A significant portion of his training, including his advanced fellowship, was focused on breast surgery and reconstruction.

Experience and Clinical Volume. Dr. Lee's clinical interest is primarily in breast surgery, both aesthetic as well as reconstructive. Dr. Lee has particular expertise in microvascular breast reconstruction. Dr. Lee performs over 430+ breast procedures per year. Of these, about 120 are for primary breast reconstruction at the time of mastectomy. The types of reconstructions include the entire range of microvascular breast reconstruction as well as implant reconstructions. For microvascular reconstruction Dr. Lee routinely perform DIEP flaps, also known as perforator flaps, which spare the abdominal muscles and minimizes the risk of post-operative complications such as muscle weakness, and hernias. Dr. Lee also performs SIEA, SGAP, TUG, and LD flaps. Dr. Lee also performs over 200+ breast implant surgeries per year, which include primary reconstruction, augmentation, and secondary revisions of breast implants.

In addition to the breast, Dr. Lee also performs complex reconstructive surgery of the head and neck, extremity, genitalia, and abdominal wall. Dr. Lee works closely

with physicians in the Stanford Comprehensive Cancer Center to provide comprehensive reconstructive plastic surgery services to a large patient base. Patients come from all over the Bay Area, but also as far as Nevada, Oregon, Washington State, and Southern California to have surgery at Stanford. Patients have also come from as far as Asia, and Europe. Collectively, Dr. Lee performs over 1,100+ surgical procedures per year (both minor and major procedures).

Dr. Lee's practice is one of the largest in Northern California in terms of volume of cases and procedures for breast reconstruction, microsurgery, and complex reconstruction.

Patient Outcomes. Dr. Lee's overall success rate for microvasular surgery is 99%. Dr. Lee's patients are very happy with their clinical outcomes. The thrombosis (clot) rate after microvascular surgery is less than 1%. Although no one can guarantee that complications will never occur after surgery, Dr. Lee's patients feel confident that at Stanford patients will receive high quality care, and that problems can be managed by an expert.

Dr. Lee directs a clinical research group, where he studies and evaluates clinical outcomes and microsurgical reconstructions. His group also is involved in basic science investigations into biomaterials, muscle stem cells, adipocyte stem cells, and composite tissue allotransplantation (CTA). As the residency program director, Dr. Lee is responsible for educating and training the next generation of plastic surgeons. He works with medical students, residents, and post-doc research fellows on study design, project development, scientific writing, podium presentations, and peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Lee has published many articles on plastic surgery, breast reconstruction, microsurgery, reconstruction, and education. Studying clinical outcomes and being on the frontier of scientific discovery allows Dr. Lee to find better ways to improve patient care and to provide the highest quality surgical procedures to his patients.

Reputation. Dr. Lee is recognized as an expert and leader regionally, nationally, and internationally for plastic surgery. As a testimony to his knowledge, experience, and expertise, Dr. Lee serves on several peer-reviewed scientific journals, which include being the Associate Editor for the Annals of Plastic Surgery Journal's Microsurgery Section, as well as serving on the editorial board for the Microsurgery Journal. Dr. Lee also reviews articles for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and Head and Neck journals. Dr. Lee was awarded the Teacher of the Year Award by the Plastic Surgery Residents in 2011, 2009, and 2008. In 2012, he was awarded the Henry J. Kaiser Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching by Stanford School of Medicine. Dr. Lee lectures around the United States, and around the world on breast surgery, reconstruction, and microsurgery.

Dr. Lee is Board Certified by the **American Board of Plastic Surgery, Inc**, the only organization to provide certification to plastic surgeons. He is an active member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS), the American Association of Plastic Surgeons (AAPS), the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery (ASRM), California Society of Plastic Surgeons (CSPS), and the American Council of Academic Plastic Surgeons (ACAPS). Dr. Lee serves on several national committees including the AAPS Scientific Program Committee, CSPS Program Committee, ASPS Health Policy and Advocacy Committee, In-Service Exam Writing Committee, Instructional Course Committee, Symposia Committee, and ACAPS Education Committee.

Commitment to Excellence. Dr. Lee and his team at Stanford are committed to providing the highest quality care to his patients. The team approach by experts in

the field at one of the top academic centers in the world means that you will receive the latest information, and the most advanced techniques for whatever plastic surgery needs that you may have. Whether it is breast reconstruction after breast cancer surgery, or aesthetic procedures to enhance your appearance, Dr. Lee will provide a thorough individualized consultation.

Having a team who is experienced in taking care of you means that you won't just have one physician, but actually several physicians who will be looking after you and ensuring your safety and comfort. In addition, there are nurses who are specially trained to help in the operating room, the hospital wards, and in the clinics.

Team Members.
Dr. Gordon Lee – Director of Microsurgery, Attending Surgeon Stanford University School of Medicine

Kathryn Kamperman, NP – Nurse Practitioner, specializing in cancer care for women

Julie Becker, RN – Nurse Coordinator, specializing in cancer care for women

Nicole Cordova – Surgery Scheduler

Kimberlee DeSilva & Vivian Caringal – New Patient Coordinators. To arrange a clinic visit and consultation.

Norma Evaristo, RN – Nurse manager at 1000 Welch Road, Plastic Surgery Clinic.

Microsurgery Clinical Instructors. Fully trained plastic surgeons who assist in the operating room, and in the aftercare.

Chief Resident – Plastic surgery trainee/resident in the last year of their training prior to graduating.

Junior Resident & Intern – Plastic surgery trainee/resident who will help in the aftercare of your surgery.

Choosing your physician and your team. Do not be afraid to ask the questions that you need to know when deciding on your physician and team:
-What is the training of your plastic surgeon? Do they have specialty training or an advanced fellowship in breast reconstruction or breast microsurgery?
-How many procedures does your plastic surgeon perform per year, per week, per month? Are these procedures relevant to your care—breast reconstruction, breast implants, breast microsurgery, aesthetic surgery?
-What are the expected outcomes? Are patients satisfied? Can you speak with some of their patients to get their experience?
-Does your plastic surgeon have any complications? If a complication arises, will your plastic surgeon have the training and experience to manage it appropriately? The risk of complications in any procedure is never zero; so a surgeon who says he/she has no complications is not likely doing a large volume of procedures.
-What is the reputation of your plastic surgeon? Regional reputation? National reputation? International reputation?