## -» EDUCATION

Member surgeons of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) must meet rigorous educational standards. Many members complete the following training path to become a surgeon certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery® (ABPS):

Undergraduate 4 YEARS **Degree** 

**Graduate 4 YEARS Medical Degree** 

Clinical **Surgical Training** 

3± YEARS

**Plastic Surgery Residency Training** 

3+ YEARS

# AMERICAN BOARD OF PLASTIC SURGERY Oral & Written Exams

ABPS establishes specific educational, training and professional standards for physicians within this specialty. Once certified, members must complete comprehensive testing and continuing-education requirements in order to maintain board-certification.

## »PROCEDURES

**ASPS MEMBERS** WHO PERFORM RECONSTRUCTIVE **SURGERY.\*** 

\*According to data collected by the ASPS Tracking Operations and Outcomes for Plastic Surgeons (TOPS) program.

Plastic surgery is more than just cosmetic procedures. Over 80 percent of ASPS member surgeons perform reconstructive plastic surgery, including the treatment of abnormal structures of the body caused by trauma, infection, tumors, disease, congenital defects, developmental abnormalities, etc.\* These procedures are generally performed to improve function, but may also be done to approximate normal appearance.

#### **RECONSTRUCTIVE PROCEDURES:**

- » Breast reconstruction postmastectomy or lumpectomy
- » Acute burn care & post-burn reconstruction
- » Cleft lip & cleft palate surgery
- » Face & hand transplantation
- » Skin cancer removal
- » Complex wound care

Reconstructive plastic surgery is covered by many health insurance policies, although coverage for specific procedures and levels of coverage may vary. ASPS's mission includes raising public awareness of insurance-coverage options for reconstructive plastic surgery.

## -»PATIENT SAFETY

**THOUSANDS** OF MEMBER SURGEONS ONE HIGH STANDARD The top priority of ASPS and its members is patient safety. ASPS requirements ensure that surgery is only performed in accredited, state-licensed or Medicarecertified surgical facilities, where stringent national standards are met for equipment, operating-rooms, personnel and surgeons.

Learn more about the American Society of Plastic Surgeons at PlasticSurgery.org