



what will your results look like?

THE **BIOMETRIX AXISTHREE** 3D SCANNING TECHNOLOGY HAS HELPED TAKE THE GUESSWORK OUT OF COSMETIC SURGERY PROCEDURES. AIMÉE SURTENICH REPORTS.

The latest in 3D scanning, the Biometrix AxisThree, takes the cosmetic surgery consultation to the next level. It gives the power back to the patient – allowing them to be confident in their own decision making, how the operation will proceed and what their results will most likely look like.

'A good consultation should leave nothing to the imagination,' says Sydney plastic surgeon Dr Peter Laniewski. 'Accurate computer imaging is essential for the modern consultation process. Just like trying a dress on before you buy it, the Biometrix AxisThree imaging system allows people to see how they will most likely look after their surgery, and make informed choices about their results.'

The AxisThree system uses the newest advancement in digital simulation to visualise results of a proposed cosmetic surgery procedure and deliver an individualised depiction of what can be achieved, affording greater patient/doctor communication and improved satisfaction rates post-procedure.

AxisThree takes a series of images and merges them in to a three-dimensional matrix that allows the surgeon and patient to view the patient as a figure in space. It allows the surgeon to alter those views to simulate the effect of various surgical interventions.

### 3D breast scanning

'Using the AxisThree imaging system, patients can see how their body will look with different shapes and sizes of breast implants, allowing them to feel confident about their consultation and their decisions,' says Dr Laniewski.

The accuracy of the Biometrix AxisThree system is due to the Siemen's scanning technology, which uses Colour Coded Triangulation (CCT) to capture precise images of the patient's own body. Paired with the latest Tissue Behaviour Simulation software, it provides a clear interface for surgeons and patients to communication with each other.

'The Axis Three 3D scan is very useful in being able to

demonstrate to patients a simulation of what they might look like after breast implant surgery,' says Dr John Flynn from Queensland. 'We also find it very useful when helping patients to decide what size and shape differences to consider. A virtual image of their end result makes the patient even more confident with the decision process. One particularly useful application is when patients have a marked size difference between their breasts. Using the AxisThree, we can see which implant sizes will provide the best chance of evening up the asymmetry.'

'Additionally, when patients already have implants and wish to consider a change of size, the "trial bra" method does not work very well. With the Axis Three we can virtually try on different sizes to help make a considered choice,' Dr Flynn continues.

Dr Laniewski agrees: 'We can play with the size of the implants and their position under or above the muscle until the patient is happy with how the implants sit. Sometimes the implants won't appear as the patients thought they would, so the system provides the patient with a platform to convey exactly what she wants, and provides me with a platform to explain the steps possible to achieve this.'

The system involves four three-dimensional cameras, which simultaneously take an image of the patient and reconstruct it to depict the patient's measurements. The patient's existing volume in each breast is measured, which helps prevent discrepancies and makes planning much easier and more accurate.

In his experience, Dr Laniewski says Biometrix AxisThree is the most accurate imaging system on the market with the most advanced software, and it has become an integral part of his consultation practice. 'I also use the system for breast reconstruction patients who have had a mastectomy and thus have no existing breast tissue. Patients can be scanned with a bra or bikini top and see how different breast sizes complement their figure and lifestyle, allowing me to tailor the operation to these needs,' he says.

Breast augmentation is not the only procedure the technology can be used for. There are also modules for the nose and face for cheek and chin augmentation, which are equally beneficial to the consultation process. The patient's facial skeleton is simulated so that the projected volumisation is suited specifically to their facial structure.'

### 3D face scanning

Following the success of AxisThree's 3D Breast Scanning, the same technology is now

available to patients considering facial surgical procedures including: rhinoplasty, chin augmentation, jaw re-profiling and brow lifts.

Working on the same premise as the breast scanner, once the patient's face is scanned a series of realistic 'before' and 'after' images is displayed, enabling the patient and doctor to collaborate and discuss the desired and optimum outcomes.

The technology instantly captures a patient's unique measurements and high resolution imagery that when processed creates an exact cast of the patient's face in seconds. These measurements can then be finely adjusted to visualise what the proposed surgery can achieve. Being able to visualise the predicted results before surgery allows the patient to make their decision to undergo surgery with greater confidence as well as making the consultation process in general more informative and efficient.

'Using it in my clinic means the patient can think about the options and digest the information without any guesswork in terms of how the results might look,' Dr Laniewski concludes. **csbm**

