

## **Cosmetics (OTSG/MEDCOM Policy Memo 08-008)**

Cosmetic Surgery is any elective surgical or laser procedure performed to reshape normal structures of the body in order to improve the patient's appearance or self-esteem.

Reconstructive Surgery is any surgery or laser performed on abnormal structures of the body which are caused by congenital defects, developmental abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors or disease. Reconstructive surgery is generally performed to improve function, but may also be done to approximate a normal appearance.

### ***Indications for Specialty Care Referral***

- Available on a "space available" basis only
  - In general, direct consultation should be made from the inquiring provider to the dermatologist as to the availability and scope of services offered
- Active duty personnel must have written permission from their unit commanders, which must include the Soldier's expected separation date
- The following dermatological procedures are considered "cosmetic" and do incur a fee payable to the business office
  - Botox injections for wrinkles
  - Chemical peels or laser resurfacing for anti-aging purposes
  - Sclerotherapy or laser treatment of spider veins
  - Laser hair removal for non-medical conditions
  - The removal of "benign" lesions that are not bleeding, growing, irritated, etc (i.e. elective removal of moles for cosmetic concerns)