What is Body-Jet tumescent liposuction?

Tumescent liposuction with Body-Jet is a gentle, efficient, and effective alternative to traditional liposuction. Body-Jet was approved by the FDA in 2008, and Gateway Aesthetic is one of the few select clinics to offer the procedure.

When it is combined with Smartlipo, Body-Jet tumescent liposuction tends to provide a more significant improvement than any other treatment available.

How is the procedure performed?

The word “tumescent” means swollen and firm. By injecting a large volume of very dilute lidocaine (local anesthetic) and epinephrine (capillary constrictor) into pockets of fat, the targeted tissue becomes swollen and firm (tumescent), thereby making it easier for the liposuction cannula to travel smoothly beneath the skin to remove the fat. (A cannula is an extremely narrow instrument that is inserted into the skin.)

With traditional tumescent liposuction, after the area swells and firms, the fat is removed with a suction cannula that teases the fat out of the skin. At Gateway Aesthetic, however, we use the Body-Jet system, also called water-assisted liposuction, to increase patient comfort and enhance overall results. With Body-Jet, a dilute local anesthetic saline solution is gently sprayed from the tip of a suction cannula to simultaneously dislodge and remove the fat.

The spray of solution from the Body-Jet is much gentler, reducing the bruising, swelling, and soreness the patient may experience. In addition, Body-Jet can allow doctors to remove fat more accurately, providing superior aesthetic results; also, Body-Jet tumescent liposuction often takes less time than with the traditional method. It also uses much less anesthesia making it safer to do more body areas in one session.

What areas of the body may be treated?

Almost any area of the body may be treated. The most popular areas are the abdomen, hips, thighs, knees, and arms.

If several areas are treated, they may be numbed all at once and treated at the same time. Or, each area may be numbed and suctioned individually.
How safe is Body-Jet tumescent liposuction?
Certainly any surgical procedure carries a degree of risk. However, tumescent liposuction has an exceptional safety record when performed in an appropriate setting and by appropriately trained surgeons.

The tumescent technique eliminates both the need for general anesthesia and the need for IV narcotics and sedatives. In addition, it constricts capillaries to prevent surgical blood loss while providing fluid to the body so that an IV is not necessary.

With the tumescent technique, risks and complications drop dramatically compared to traditional liposuction.

Body-Jet was approved by the FDA in the fall of 2008, and it is the only device currently registered for water-assisted liposuction. Gateway Aesthetic is one of the few select clinics to offer the procedure.

What are the possible side effects?
Side effects are rare but may include skin irregularity, lumpiness, dimpling, loose skin, and infections.

How much time is necessary for recovery?
Recovery time varies significantly from person to person. Most of our patients, however, do not require post-operative pain medications and are active within hours of the surgery. Many return to work in as few as three days. Low impact exercise, such as walking, can be started on the same day as the Body-Jet treatment.

Is scarring a problem with Body-Jet tumescent liposuction surgery?
Because we use very small openings (most commonly 1.5 to 2.0 mm in diameter), healing is rapid and requires no stitches. Such tiny holes usually disappear with minimal or no scarring.

Fat transplantation
Fat removed with the Body-Jet is much healthier fat than that removed with tumescent anesthesia. As such, it can be immediately used to augment breast, buttocks, face and other body areas.

Are there other advantages of Body-Jet tumescent liposuction over traditional liposuction?
Tumescent liposuction offers smoother results. In addition, because tumescent local anesthesia lasts so long, tumescent liposuction is less painful and more pleasant than traditional liposuction performed under general anesthesia. With tumescent local anesthesia, patients are usually able to avoid the post-operative nausea and vomiting associated with general anesthesia. Tumescent anesthesia is so efficient at providing fluid to the body that it is unnecessary to use IV fluids.

Tumescent liposuction with Body-Jet offers further advantages, including reduced swelling, bruising, and soreness after the procedure, as well as superior cosmetic results.

How do I know if the procedure is right for me?
Give us a call at (801) 595-1600 to schedule a free consultation.

We are located at the south end of the Gateway Mall at 440 West 200 South, Suite 250, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101.