Breast augmentation surgery (“augmentation mammoplasty”), a popular cosmetic procedure among women, has progressed throughout the decades. Silicone implants, originally introduced in the 1960s, have gone through a variety of changes and improvements, making them safer with the greater ability to meet the patient’s individual needs. However, even as modern techniques and advances have improved the technology of silicone implants (including the addition of saline filled implants), breast augmentation still carries some complications and risks. Michael Eisemann, M.D., of Eisemann Plastic Surgery Center, performs breast surgery with caution and does everything he can to ensure patient safety.

A triple board certified plastic surgeon, Dr. Eisemann has been a practicing breast implants specialist in Houston for more than 30 years. Throughout the span of his career, Dr. Eisemann has dedicated himself to providing his patients with the highest possible standards of excellence in the field of cosmetic surgery. His years of study and extensive professional experience have gained him recognition as one of the top plastic surgeons in Houston, and beyond. With his widespread knowledge, he is able to provide breast augmentation patients with the safest options in breast implants and other important factors.

The first step in breast implant surgery is to choose between saline or silicone gel implants. Depending on this choice, the implant can be inserted through the armpit, around the nipple, or under the breast crease. Dr. Eisemann will place the implants behind or in front of the pectoralis muscle (breast muscle). To prevent the risk of capsular contracture (hardening of the breast implant), he typically recommends that the implants be placed behind the breast muscle.

In most cases, capsular contracture is a natural response to the placing of a foreign object in the body. At the time of the initial surgery, a pocket is made for the implant. After surgery and during the healing process, a capsule forms around the implant, which is composed of fibrous tissue. The body usually allows the pocket to stay open, creating the natural look and feel of the implant. In some cases, the capsule will tighten and squeeze the implant; this creates the hardening and distortion of the implant. Dr. Eisemann will create an implant pocket that is slightly larger than the breast implant to lessen the risk of capsular contracture. He employs the latest techniques to prevent any other problems from arising.

In order to provide minimal pain, a faster recovery, and less risk of complications, he commonly performs the breast surgery procedure with the patient under intravenous (IV) sedation. During and after surgery, he will also provide the patient with prolific antibiotics to prevent the risk of infection, capsular contracture, and excessive bleeding. The use of prolific antibiotics also helps to reduce nausea after surgery. Other complications include malpositioning of the implants, which is due to the incorrect placement of the breast implants or movement of the implants that takes place over time.
Typically, a breast augmentation procedure lasts between two to four hours. Patients can expect swelling and bruising for several days. Discomfort can be alleviated with pain medication. Usually, Dr. Eisemann recommends the patient does not resume regular activity until a few weeks after surgery.

In order to prevent complications and risks, it best for the patient to consult Dr. Eisemann and share her concerns and anxieties. He will provide the patient with pre-and post-surgical instructions that should be properly followed.

Breast augmentation can provide a woman with an enhanced, more youthful figure, and should only be performed in the hands of a professional, such as Dr. Eisemann.