

There's Nothing Plastic about Reconstructive Surgery

"I love Dr. Vennemeyer!" gushes Carla Dowling-Fitzpatrick, a 48-year-old Westerville resident who underwent breast reconstructive surgery at Grant Medical Center's Surgical and Heart Center in April 2008. That operation immediately followed a double mastectomy performed by **Brenda Sickle-Santanello, MD**, a surgeon with Surgical Oncology Associates of Ohio.

Michael D. Vennemeyer, MD, a surgeon with Metropolitan Plastic Surgery, performed the reconstructive operation on Carla. Dr. Vennemeyer was recommended to Carla by Dr. Sickle-Santanello.

But reconstructive plastic surgery for trauma patients isn't the only procedure offered by Dr. Vennemeyer and his partners at Metropolitan Plastic Surgery, the only plastic surgery practice that performs those operations at Grant. They also perform minimally invasive procedures such as Botox injections and fillers, as well as breast augmentation, tummy tucks, liposuction and facelifts.

Safety and Convenience

Undergoing any type of plastic surgery at Grant provides patient safety, as well as other advantages. Dr. Vennemeyer's office is conveniently located near Grant, so he can see patients or perform plastic surgeries in essentially the same location. The Surgical and Heart Center offers free valet parking and its own dedicated entrance. Not only are operating rooms in Grant's new Surgical Center state-of-the-art, the recovery areas and hospital rooms are new, well-appointed and designed for comfort and serenity.

Dr. Vennemeyer says he loves his job. "It's great to be able to combine my passion for medicine with improving people's quality of life," he says. Calling himself a "problem solver," Dr. Vennemeyer enjoys the challenge of visualizing an obstacle and then creating methods for overcoming that difficulty.

Advanced, Compassionate Care

When patients like Carla undergo several hours of surgery, "It's an advantage for it to take place in a state-of-the-art facility," Dr. Vennemeyer says, referring to Grant's Surgical and Heart Center.

Patient safety is enhanced at Grant because, "We are used to dealing with trauma patients and those who are sick, so those undergoing elective surgeries are in excellent hands," Dr. Vennemeyer says.

Grant Medical Center is a Level I Trauma Center with physicians, surgeons, nurses and support staff thoroughly trained in treating medical traumas and emergencies. "By being at a Level I Trauma Center and referral hospital, patients can have the peace of mind knowing that if the unexpected arises, we are fully equipped to meet their needs," Dr. Vennemeyer says.

"Dr. Vennemeyer does artwork on your body. I have no scars and had no stitches. Not only that, he treated me like I'm a person, not just a patient," Carla says. Dr. Vennemeyer admits that patients like Carla may have scars, but they are generally thin enough that they aren't usually bothersome. He also uses stitches under the skin that harmlessly dissolve into the body.



Michael D. Vennemeyer, MD

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