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**These Neck Lift Before and After Pictures Show the Reality of
Plastic Surgery Over 50**

Beth Ann Mayer | October 5, 2024



PERK Plastic Surgery in Beverly Hills/Jennifer Hope

Over the years, we've received mixed messages on what aging looks like. On one hand, tabloid headlines would declare women "ageless wonders." Weeks later, you'd see a headline shaming them for getting plastic surgery. No wonder people were hesitant to discuss any work they had done.

Rhinoplasties (nose jobs), breast augmentations (lifts, implants or reductions), and rhytidectomies (facelifts) are commonly discussed procedures—as are botox and fillers. Sometimes overlooked but still sought-after, experts say, is the neck lift.

8. Life-saving lift



Photo provided by Dr. Kimberly Lee, board-certified facial plastic surgeon in Beverly Hills

Janine Avanti has worked as a professional house painting contractor, a world-champion high-speed water ski racer and a bodybuilder. Currently, she's acting in indie films. "Due to the nature of my lifestyle, I felt that it was important to look my best," Avanti says.

However, her "previous lives" required her to spend time weathering elements that she says "definitely took a toll on my skin."

Creams, lasers, peels, Botox and fillers didn't do the trick. Avanti explored a neck lift. She looked into several options before deciding on **Dr. Kimberly Lee, MD**, a board-certified facial plastic surgeon who only does procedures from the neck up. Dr. Kimberly Lee had also been a head and neck surgeon.

"It just so happened that I had been told by two other doctors in previous years that I had a fibroid tumor in my neck," Avanti says. "I figured that was a great opportunity to have it removed. This made Dr. [Kimberly] Lee the perfect surgeon for my procedure. Remove the fibroid and get a neck lift—perfect."

Avanti says the procedure took much longer in her case—more than three and a half hours "because of the nature of the tumor being attached to nearly everything in my neck, including the nerves that run along my jaw."

Recovery was also different.

"I happened to be in a tremendous amount of pain, which was not normal for a neck lift," Avanti says. "The left side of my neck and lower face had next to no pain or discomfort at all. [However], the right side, where the tumor was removed, felt like it was on fire. I noticed that the lower right side of my face and lip were non-operable or what felt like paralyzed."

Avanti had a ton of questions, which Dr. Kimberly Lee answered at the standard next-day follow-up. “She mentioned that it is not normal to have this amount of pain and prescribed me some medication to ease my discomfort,” Avanti says. “We also discussed the right side of my face not moving as well as before. This is when she let me know that the tumor was smashed deep into my neck and attached to the nerves that ran along the right side of my face.”

The neck lift didn’t bother her. However, Avanti received startling news less than a week later after receiving the results from a pathology report on the tumor. She had cancer, which had triggered the crooked smile and discomfort.

“Needless to say, this was not the recovery I was expecting,” Avanti says. “It was at that moment that I began to pray for a healing and a miracle.”

Dr. Kimberly Lee helped her find a local oncology team. Today, after 33 radiation treatments, Avanti is cancer-free. “I know without a doubt that Dr. Kimberly Lee and my neck lift saved my life,” Avanti says. “This experience has changed my life in more ways than one. Being cancer-free and healthy is a great feeling. As for my neck lift, I love the results.”

What Are the Risks and Side Effects of a Neck Lift?

A neck lift is a surgical procedure, so it’s not risk-free, and people may experience short-term side effects. “As with any other surgical procedure, a neck lift carries some risks and potential side effects,” Dr. Kimberly Lee says. “It’s important to be aware of the following, including scarring, temporary swelling, infection, asymmetry, numbness and risks of anesthesia.”

Finding a provider who is certified and makes you feel comfortable is important. Additionally, following post-operative instructions can reduce the risks of long-term issues.

How Much Do Neck Lifts Cost?

It depends. “The cost varies depending on the underlying anatomy and how much lifting needs to be done and is related to the experience and skill of the surgeon along with costs of operating room, anesthesia, consumables and geographic location,” Dr. Kimberly Lee says.

Still, Dr. Kimberly Lee can offer a ballpark (though it’s a rather large one).

“Generally, with some exceptions, a neck lift alone can cost anywhere from \$15,000 to \$35,000 depending on [the aforementioned] factors,” Dr. Kimberly Lee says.

Sources

- [Dr. Kimberly Lee, MD](#), a board-certified facial plastic surgeon
- Janine Avanti, woman who underwent a neck lift with Dr. Kimberly Lee, MD, a board-certified facial plastic surgeon

<https://parade.com/health/neck-lift-before-and-after>