Patient safety is dermatologists’ No. 1 priority. Dermatologists have the education, expertise and experience to safely and effectively reduce the signs of aging. The American Academy of Dermatology recommends that before undergoing any cosmetic procedure, consumers should ask the following questions:

**What are the doctor’s credentials and is he or she board-certified?**
Remember, dermatologists are physicians with extensive education, training and experience keeping the skin, hair and nails healthy.

**How many of these particular cosmetic surgery procedures has the physician performed?**
The procedure should be one that the doctor performs regularly. Ask to see before-and-after photos of previous patients.

**What results can be expected and are there any risks?**
Because your results depend largely on the skill and experience of the person performing the procedure, it is important to select a board-certified physician. A dermatologist can tell you if the procedure will deliver the desired results, based on the condition of your skin as well as your age and health.

Remember, undergoing a cosmetic procedure is not just about your appearance and convenience. It is about your health and safety first. A dermatologist has the medical training and experience required to keep skin healthy and youthful-looking.

American Academy of Dermatology
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