

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Plastic Surgery Treatment Law

Adopted by Decree No. 1418 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on November 23, Juche 105 (2016)

Revised and supplemented by Decree No. 62 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on June 23, Juche 108 (2019)

Revised and supplemented by Decree No. 1553 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on February 6, Juche 113 (2024)

Article 1 (Mission of the Plastic Surgery Treatment Law) The Plastic Surgery Treatment Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea aims to strictly establish systems and order in plastic surgery treatment activities, develop plastic surgery treatment work, protect and promote people's health, and contribute to ensuring a happier and more civilized life for the people.

Article 2 (Definition of Plastic Surgery Treatment) Plastic surgery treatment refers to the surgical method of restoring congenital and acquired deformities and some functional disorders mainly on the body's surface and nearby tissues and organs to normal or near-normal conditions, or enhancing appearance for aesthetic purposes.

Article 3 (Principles of Plastic Surgery Treatment Development) Ensuring all treatment conditions so that people can enjoy a happy and civilized life with a healthy and beautiful appearance is an inherent demand of our country's people-centered socialist system. The state continuously develops plastic surgery treatment to serve the purpose of treating people's appearance to be healthy and beautiful.

Article 4 (Modernization of Plastic Surgery Treatment Technology and Equipment) Plastic surgery treatment institutions must continuously modernize plastic surgery treatment technology, equipment, medical instruments, materials, and drugs, and actively adopt advanced plastic surgery treatment methods.

Article 5 (Scientific Research and Talent Cultivation) Central health guidance institutions, relevant scientific research institutions, and educational institutions must strengthen scientific research on plastic surgery treatment, solve theoretical and practical issues arising in the development of plastic surgery treatment, and prospectively cultivate talents needed in the plastic surgery treatment sector.

Article 6 (Conditions for Plastic Surgery Treatment Work) Relevant institutions, including state planning institutions, labor administration institutions, material supply institutions,

and financial and banking institutions, must fully ensure labor, equipment, materials, funds, medical instruments, materials, and drugs needed for plastic surgery treatment work.

Article 7 (Guidance on Plastic Surgery Treatment Work) Guidance on plastic surgery treatment work is carried out by central health guidance institutions under the unified leadership of the Cabinet. Central health guidance institutions must establish a proper guidance system for plastic surgery treatment work and regularly grasp and guide it.

Article 8 (Exchange and Cooperation) The state strengthens exchange and cooperation with various countries and international organizations in the field of plastic surgery treatment.

Article 9 (Application of the Law) This law applies to medical institutions specializing in plastic surgery treatment, medical personnel, and citizens requiring plastic surgery treatment.

Article 10 (Relation to Other Laws) Matters not regulated by this law regarding plastic surgery treatment are governed by relevant laws, including the People's Health Law and the Medical Law.

Article 11 (Targets of Plastic Surgery Treatment) Targets of plastic surgery treatment are as follows:

1. Targets requiring plastic surgery treatment to correct congenital deformities.
2. Targets requiring plastic surgery treatment to correct appearance deformities and defects caused by various reasons such as soft tissue trauma, burns, tumors, and inflammatory diseases.
3. Targets requiring plastic surgery treatment among trauma patients in the orthopedic sector.
4. Targets requiring plastic surgery treatment to enhance appearance despite no damage from soft tissue trauma, burns, tumors, or inflammatory diseases.

Article 12 (Prohibited Acts) The following plastic surgery treatment acts are prohibited:

1. Plastic surgery treatment that completely changes the face to another person's appearance.
2. Plastic surgery treatment that changes fingerprints.
3. Plastic surgery treatment for sex change, except in special cases.

4. Plastic surgery treatment that includes tattooing eyebrows or eyelashes, among others, that do not conform to socialist lifestyle.

Article 13 (Plastic Surgery Treatment Institutions) Plastic surgery treatment is carried out by specialized plastic surgery hospitals, central-level hospitals, and provincial-level hospitals specializing in plastic surgery. Plastic surgery treatment institutions must firmly establish capabilities for plastic surgery treatment and fully equip medical facilities and instruments, and medicines. Except for joint surgeries, plastic surgery operations cannot be performed in institutions or places other than plastic surgery treatment institutions.

Article 14 (Qualifications for Plastic Surgery Treatment) Plastic surgery treatment can only be performed by medical personnel with qualifications as plastic surgery specialists. Even if they have qualifications as plastic surgery specialists, members not working in plastic surgery treatment institutions cannot perform plastic surgery treatment.

Article 15 (Diagnosis for Plastic Surgery Treatment) Plastic surgery treatment institutions must conduct examinations and tests on patients seeking plastic surgery treatment, discuss them in a medical council, and make accurate diagnoses. The confirmed diagnosis is recorded in the medical history and informed to the patient.

Article 16 (Preparation of Plastic Surgery Treatment Patients) Plastic surgery treatment institutions must prepare patients well before treatment to eliminate anxiety and actively participate in treatment.

Article 17 (Plastic Surgery Treatment Methods) Plastic surgery treatment institutions must accurately set the treatment direction for patients, thoroughly prepare for treatment, and treat patients using academically recognized methods. Treatment content must be informed to the patient in advance and consent obtained. If it is impossible to obtain the patient's consent due to unavoidable circumstances, consent from the guardian is obtained.

Article 18 (Care for Patients) Medical personnel must treat patients seeking plastic surgery treatment kindly and devote all wisdom and sincerity to treatment.

Article 19 (Patient Treatment Documents) Plastic surgery treatment institutions must accurately prepare patient treatment documents such as medical history, diagnosis, and prescriptions. The original or part of the patient treatment documents is kept for the specified period.

Article 20 (Supervision and Control) Supervision and control of plastic surgery treatment work are carried out by central health guidance institutions and relevant supervision and control institutions. Central health guidance institutions and relevant supervision and

control institutions must strictly supervise and control whether plastic surgery treatment work is conducted according to the demands of socialist health policy.

Article 21 (Confiscation) If plastic surgery treatment is performed illegally, the equipment, materials, tools used for the act, and improperly obtained money and goods are confiscated.

Article 22 (Warning and Severe Warning Punishment) If treatment is not performed using academically recognized methods or patient treatment documents such as medical history, diagnosis, and prescriptions are not accurately prepared or kept for the specified period, responsible persons are given warning punishment. If the circumstances are severe, severe warning punishment is given.

Article 23 (Unpaid Labor Punishment) If Article 12 of this law is violated or medical accidents occur due to irresponsible plastic surgery treatment, responsible persons are given unpaid labor punishment of up to 3 months. If the circumstances are severe, unpaid labor punishment of more than 3 months is given.

Article 24 (Dismissal and Removal Punishment) If severe consequences occur due to violation of plastic surgery treatment order, responsible persons are given dismissal and removal punishment according to the circumstances.

Article 25 (Criminal Responsibility) If acts violating this law constitute a crime, criminal responsibility is imposed according to relevant provisions of the Criminal Law.

Article 26 (Effective Date) The Plastic Surgery Treatment Law revised and supplemented by Decree No. 1553 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on February 6, Juche 113 (2024) is effective from February 20, Juche 113 (2024).