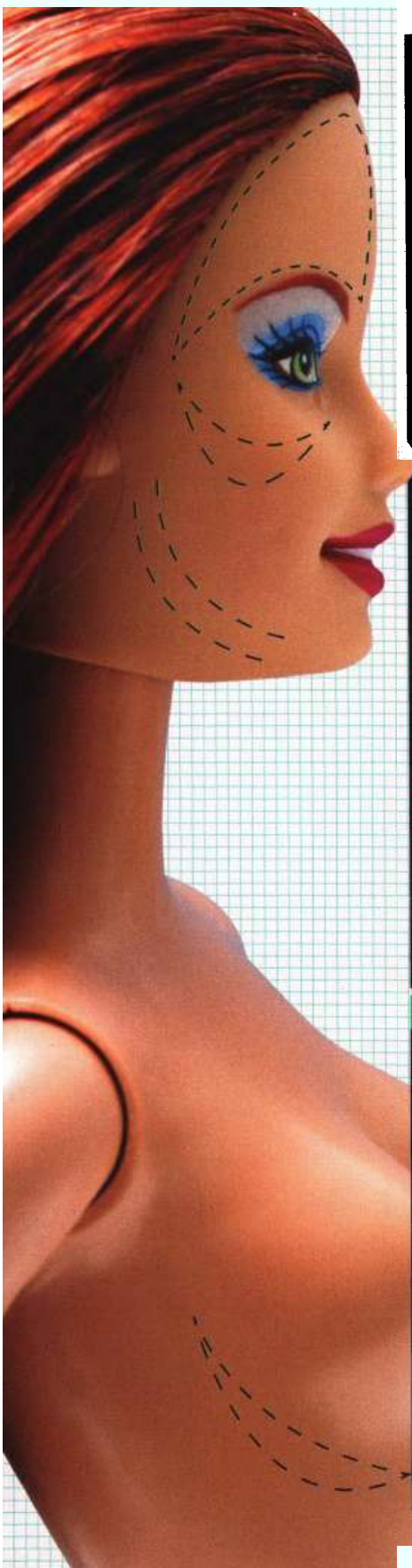


Dolly
May, 2008
Page: 88
Section: General News
Region: National Circulation: 131,199
Type: Magazines Lifestyle
Size: 995.65 sq.cms.
Published: Monthly

Brief: BRAND NEW
Page 1 of 2



HIGH SCHOOL

SURGERY

HOW YOUNG IS TOO YOUNG?

Cosmetic surgery among teen girls is on the rise and, alarmingly, it's celebs who are leading the charge.

There's nothing like the first day back at school after a long break to get the rumour mill crankin'. Everyone wants to know who hooked up; who fell out; and who got a new look over the holidays. And while blonde foils or a new piercing may turn a few heads, a drastic change in someone's appearance is guaranteed to get the whole school talking. "I was sitting with my friends in assembly on the first day back after Easter, when a girl in the year below us walked in," recalls Alice, 17. "It was obvious she'd had a nose job during the holidays. Before it was very prominent and bony; now it was small and straight, with a slight tilt at the end. It looked really weird ... she just didn't look like herself anymore. It was literally all anyone could talk about! I guess if she was happy with it, great, but it scared me that she was only 16 and already having surgery."

UNDER-AGE AND UNDER THE KNIFE

Whether it's a straighter nose, smaller ears or a sudden growth spurt in the chest region, a little school-holiday nip/tuck is becoming a worrying trend. Dr Mark Edinburg, a member of the Australian Society of Plastic



Dolly
May, 2008
Page: 88
Section: General News
Region: National Circulation: 131,199
Type: Magazines Lifestyle
Size: 995.65 sq.cms.
Published: Monthly

Brief: BRAND NEW
Page 2 of 2

Surgeons, says more and more girls are resorting to cosmetic surgery to improve their body image. "I had someone come in for a consultation who was only 13," recalls Dr Edinburg. "When I told her I wouldn't perform surgery to remove fat, she cried." And it's not just liposuction popping up on some teens' surgery wish lists – boob jobs are also gaining popularity. "I'm turning a lot of girls away who want breast enlargements," Dr Edinburg says. "At 17, you may still be developing and I won't operate on someone who's still growing." In the US, reports of senior students spending up big on Botox and lip-plumping injections for their high-school prom made recent headlines. "I personally think it's absurd. I can't really see how these girls would need it. It isn't appropriate for girls of that age," Dr Edinburg says. And he's not the only one who's appalled. A recent poll on the DOLLY website (ninemsn.com.au/dolly) reveals that 57 per cent of you wouldn't consider plastic surgery, even if money was no object.

STARS WHO PAY FOR PERFECTION

Still, the pressure to look perfect from every angle means plenty of young stars are undergoing major surgery. Ashlee Simpson, who had previously declared her fondness for her prominent nose, shocked everyone when she unveiled a brand new schnoz two years ago. Papa Joe confirmed his daughter had indeed gone under the knife, citing "breathing problems" as the reason for the rhinoplasty. More recently, *High School Musical* star Ashley Tisdale gave the same excuse for her new, more refined profile. Of course, no list of surgically-enhanced celebs is complete without *The Hills* star Heidi Montag. She underwent a breast augmentation and nose job in April last year, later selling the tale of her procedure to a US tabloid. "Whatever women need to do to feel sexy, they should do," Heidi declared. Obviously someone forgot to tell her sexiness comes from how you feel on the inside, not what bra size you wear

THE FAMOUS CHICKS WHO'VE 'FESSED UP TO SURGERY



Ashlee Simpson upset fans when she got a new nose.



HSM's Ashley Tisdale says she had surgery to fix her "breathing problems".



Tara Reid has admitted that her surgery went horribly wrong.



Jess Simpson says she hated her plumped-up lips and is glad they're normal again!

WHEN SURGERY GOES WRONG

Despite some celebrities' blasé attitude to cosmetic surgery, the dangers are well-documented. The risks include infection, chronic pain and the botched jobs. In fact, ops that have gone wrong are so common, they've given rise to a new kind of surgery: "undo-plasty", surgery to correct the damage done by a messed-up operation. Over 60 per cent of GPs in the UK admitted to treating patients who've suffered from failed cosmetic procedures. In an effort to look more like Paris Hilton, DOLLY reader Haylie*, 18, and her best friend, Sarah, had nose jobs when they were 17. But despite their high expectations, the results were very different. "The doctor gave us a mirror each to unveil what he called a 'masterpiece'," recalls Haylie. "I looked at my nose and screamed – it was pointy and large, like a beak, and didn't suit my face. Sarah's nose was like a huge ball of pus; it was flaming red and bruised." Sarah still hasn't fully recovered from the infection in her nose, which has begun to collapse. Now in therapy, Haylie warns against seeing surgery as a quick-fix solution to a supposed flaw. "I can't bear to look at myself in the mirror and won't even think about going out in public," she says. "I want girls to know that, no matter how great the doctor is or how bad you think your features are, losing what we've lost isn't worth it."

DOLLY EXTRAS: You give us your two cents on cosmetic surgery.

