

In Taiwan, Ophthalmic Plastic and Orbital Surgery

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Abstract

In this research, we discuss the current situation of orbital and plastic surgery in Taiwan. The Taiwan Medical Association gathered information from the Bureau of National Health Insurance of Taiwan, the Taiwan Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Society Bulletin, and the Statistics Yearbook of Practising Physicians and Health Care Organisations in Taiwan. We discovered that 5.8% of Taiwan's 1621 ophthalmologists—94 of whom were oculoplastic surgeons—were eye doctors. Most ophthalmologists receive their fellowship training abroad or in Taiwan, however others do so as well. All ophthalmologists were competent surgeons with extensive training in oculoplastic procedures. Compared to Medicare payments in the United States, our National Health Insurance offers comparatively low payment rates for oculoplastic and orbital procedures.

Introduction

Taiwan is an island that is 36,000 square kilometres in size. It has a population of 23.1 million in 2011 [1]. More than 9.8% of the total population is older than 65, which satisfies the World Bank's definition of an ageing society. Organisation for Health. Taiwan's average life expectancy in 2010 was 78.6 years (for men it was 76.2 years and for women it was 82.8 years). This was on par with the life expectancy in many industrialised nations. Taiwan's National Health Insurance programme was founded in 1995, and by the end of 2009, 23 million beneficiaries (99.6% of the population) were covered by it. Taiwan has proven that it has sufficient human and material resources for the medical field throughout this time. The demand for plastic and cosmetic products has increased as the gross domestic product has increased. It is difficult to easily document the precise

number of cosmetic eyelid surgeries [2]. However, it is estimated that of doctors are specialists from various specialties, including dermatologists, family practitioners, and gynaecologists. In Taiwan, botulinum toxin injections are the most popular cosmetic surgery (32.7%), followed by hyaluronic acid injections [3].

Ophthalmologists should be encouraged to do periorbital aesthetic procedures in addition to their standard functional procedures, and they should pay more attention to aesthetic surgeries. The idea that a "eye doctor" is the best option for individuals seeking periorbital plastic and aesthetic operations should be promoted by ophthalmologists [4]. The Taiwan Society of ocular Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery should instruct and motivate ophthalmologists to conduct more cosmetic surgeries and aesthetic procedures in order to advance ocular and orbital surgery. It is imperative to become familiar with more modern procedures including dacryocystoplasty, endoscopic dacryocystorhinostomy, and orbital tumour chemotherapy in addition to conventional eyelid operations, lacrimal surgeries, and orbital and lacrimal surgeries [5].

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