

01 A New Saline Implant That Gives the Look of Silicone

NOT ALL IMPLANTS ARE CREATED EQUAL AND EACH BOASTS UNIQUE BENEFITS. CHOOSING BETWEEN SALINE AND SILICONE IMPLANTS CAN BE DIFFICULT. EVEN THOUGH SILICONE IMPLANTS ARE SAFE AND FEEL MORE NATURAL, SOME WOMEN JUST PREFER SALINE—NOT ONLY ARE THEY CHEAPER (THEY MAY NOT LAST AS LONG AND MAY RIPPLE), BUT THEY ARE EASIER TO DETECT SHOULD THE IMPLANTS RUPTURE.

THE INNOVATION A new saline-filled implant, known as the **Ideal Implant**, takes the best of both saline and silicone, and converges them into a single implant, even though no silicone gel is actually used (all implants use solid silicone in the shell). It purportedly overcomes the potential problems, like rippling and an unnatural feel, that are common with saline implants.

HOW IT WORKS The implant is comprised of a series of thin implant shells, each slightly bigger than the next, to restrict the saline from moving. "The internal structure was designed to control the saline so the implant doesn't bounce. The edges of the implant are also supported so it doesn't wrinkle," says Dallas plastic surgeon Robert Hamas, MD, who created the implants. In addition, the implants don't fall to the side when you lay down, and the edges lie low and close to the surface, eliminating the overly round and obvious look. "Compared to other saline implants that are currently available, early clinical results show that the Ideal Implant doesn't bounce or ripple and conforms to the chest wall so that it feels natural," explains Dr. Hamas.



COST As of press time, the implants are still in clinical trials and have yet to receive FDA approval, so pricing has not been determined.

