



# MEDICAL PROFILES

## THE RIGHT CHOICE

When Seeking A Physician, Choose A Board-Certified Expert Like **Dr. Rafael C. Cabrera**

**T**here is an abundance of information available today and no shortage of "expert opinions". Many people question the best way to find and choose the right plastic surgeon. How do you know what to look for, and sort through all that information?

It's essential to do your homework. Understanding the importance of credentials is the first step. Medical specialty certification in the United States is a voluntary process. While medical licensure sets the minimum competency requirements to diagnose and treat patients, it's not specialty specific. Board certification - and the Gold Star - demonstrates a physician's exceptional expertise in a particular medical specialty and/or subspecialty.

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) was founded to standardize requirements for doctors wishing to claim board certification. It recognizes plastic surgery as one such specialty, and includes aesthetic treatments and aesthetic surgery. Two other important credentials to look for are the American Society of Plastic Surgeons and the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery.



Dr. Rafael C. Cabrera

“Benefiting from exceptional training in New York at the world’s most highly acclaimed institutions, Dr. Cabrera’s outstanding credentials, training and board certification are the hallmark of his expertise and reputation.”

Start by asking if a physician is board certified and then find out by what board and in what specialty. Unfortunately, there are organizations that provide certification through a process far less rigorous than ABMS Member board certifica-

tion (in some cases, by simply taking a weekend course or reading a book and passing a one-time exam).

Researching credentials and licensing can be expedited online through industry and physician Web sites. Another frequently used resource is a physician referral. Many local doctors frequently recommend Dr. Rafael C. Cabrera to their patients.

Benefiting from exceptional training in New York at the world’s most highly acclaimed institutions, Dr. Cabrera’s outstanding credentials, training and board certification are the hallmark of his expertise and reputation. In today’s world, patients need a board-certified surgeon like Dr. Cabrera.



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