

Cosmetic surgery, the perfect Valentine's gift

Shreya Bhandary | TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Everyone wants to put their best face forward on Valentine's Day. What god didn't give them, a doctor can—for a price, of course. Waking up to this mantra, Mumbai's women are turning to cosmetic surgery for a feel-good quick fix. And as a Valentine's Day gift, their better halves are footing the bill.

Says Dr Mohan Thomas, senior consultant, Breach Candy Hospital, "Requests for major cosmetic surgeries start in December or early January. The most common cosmetic work women get done for Valentine's Day are skin glow and lip-filler treatments."

Cheekbone surgery is all the rage. "After a certain age, women don't like the sagging skin on their faces. High-cheek-

bone surgery makes one look several years younger," says cosmetic surgeon Dr Rashmi Shetty. She says skin-glow techniques are less time-consuming, and involve a diluted version of botox being injected into the skin. "It's the easiest and

Bhagvan Das



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most popular demand for Valentine's Day," she says.

For 49-year-old Priya Arora (name changed) from Dubai, Valentine's was the perfect excuse to get her youthful face back. "I run a lot, and that's why my face started feeling saggy very soon," says Arora, who recently got a lip-filler and cheekbone treatment from Dr Shetty.

But the procedures are expensive. "Cheekbone surgery can cost Rs 50,000-60,000 or more; lip fillers Rs 20,000-30,000. Skin-glow botox injections are cheapest at Rs 5,000-10,000," says dermatocosmetologist Dr Swati Srivastava.