



by Benjamin Margalit/Margalit Studio

Know your doctor. *University Hospitals Department of Plastic Surgery* has board-certified doctors, like Dr. David Rowe, who specialize in the field.

# Who's Holding the Knife?

Plastic surgeon David Rowe, MD, of *University Hospitals Department of Plastic Surgery*, offers these must-read tips to anyone considering a facial or figure-changing procedure.

by **KenMcEntee**  
Contributing Writer

“In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes,” Benjamin Franklin famously wrote to Jean-Baptiste LeRoy in 1789. Perhaps because he wasn’t wearing his bifocals and couldn’t see very clearly at the time, he neglected to mention two other inevitables.



“Age and gravity are something that everybody deals with,” observes

David Rowe, MD, a plastic surgeon at the University Hospitals Department of Plastic Surgery. “As people get older, they show signs of aging, such as facial atrophy, sagging, wrinkles, and changes in their skin and their complexions.”

As pioneers in their field, the surgeons at the University Hospitals Department of Plastic Surgery offer advanced surgical and nonsurgical procedures to help patients defy outward signs of aging—and restore their inner confidence.

“Our treatment runs the gamut from minimally-invasive procedures like laser treatment to surgical procedures like face lifts, eye lifts, and brow lifts,” says Dr. Rowe, whose special interests include noninvasive facial rejuvenation, hair transplantation, and wound care. “Every patient has his or her own situation and special challenges, but wrinkles around the eyes and mouth are among the most common I see.”

Among the simplest procedures that can be performed right in the office are laser treatments to remove age spots, eliminate wrinkles, and rejuvenate the skin, Dr. Rowe says.

“Often the laser treatment is done along with the use of various types of fillers, which can add some volume where it has been lost,” he says.

Unfortunately, Dr. Rowe laments, too many of his patients are people who come in to have a bad job fixed.

“One of the differences between our department and some other practitioners is that we are leading experts at what we do,” he explains. “There are some family practitioners and emergency room doctors who pay to take a course, then start to do Botox, fillers, and laser procedures. There are obvious dangers in that. Anybody can inject a filler, but what happens if something goes wrong? What if they put it in the wrong place? Being board certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery, that’s what I am trained in. It’s something I do all the time. Eight times out of 10, when you go to somebody who does this as a sideline, you’ll get a good result. But how about the other two times when you get into trouble, and they don’t know how to get you out of it?”

As Assistant Professor, Surgery, at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Dr. Rowe spends a lot of his time teaching the next generation of plastic surgeons to do just that.

“Being affiliated with a leading research institution is a big advantage,” he says. “We



In the small “before” photos, note the prominent dark circles and sagging skin texture. In the larger “after” photos, the overall look is more youthful and healthy looking.

are very active in the research field, so we have access to all of the latest products. I sit on some of the national laser safety boards. I think that’s one of the reasons we have so many satisfied patients. What it comes down to is, we know what we’re doing.”

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The University Hospitals Department of Plastic Surgery offers a diversity of procedures covering the entire body, with each surgeon in the department having a specific area of concentrated focus and

expertise.

Along with cosmetic procedures, Dr. Rowe, who is the Director of the Center for Wound Care at the University Hospitals Department of Plastic Surgery, also performs complex reconstructive work for victims of cancer and other conditions.

“I have a very satisfying job,” Dr. Rowe shares. “I like the idea that I can effectively and simply reverse the effects of aging using a variety of techniques, and have the ability to change somebody’s life for the better. At the end of the day, what we do is all about making patients feel better about themselves.”

*The University Hospitals Center for Facial Plastic Surgery is located at 29001 Cedar Road, Suite 202, in Lyndhurst. You can call them at 440-461-7999, or learn more at [UHHospitals.org/Case/Services/Plastic-surgery/Our-divisions/Facial-plastic-surgery](http://UHHospitals.org/Case/Services/Plastic-surgery/Our-divisions/Facial-plastic-surgery).*