

SURGICAL SPECIALISTS
of Carolina

Compassionate care
that delivers results.

**Ethical.
Compassionate.
Personalized.**

Surgical Specialists of Carolina puts patients ahead of profits.

Dr. Jeremiah Mason knew he wanted to be a doctor since he was a child. He wanted to help people whose medical conditions were degrading their quality of life. But when he achieved his dream and became a board-certified general surgeon at a hospital, he saw an ugly side of the medical business. "It's not always about what's best for the patient anymore," Mason says. "It's about what's best for the hospital." That's why he left and started his own practice, Surgical Specialists of Carolina.

"I spend a lot of time with my patients because I'm not being pressured to see a certain number of people or see more than I'm already seeing," Mason says. "A lot of my new patients are surprised by that, because they're so used to being

treated like a number instead of a person. They definitely notice, and they're very happy that a doctor listens to them for more than a couple of minutes."

It's About Trust

Mason is a general surgeon by trade and has experience repairing hernias, performing procedures such as appendectomies, and treating acid reflux. But Mason believes in listening to his patients, and in response to patient demand, his practice now offers a wide variety of cosmetic surgical procedures, including laser hair removal, laser skin treatment, SmartLipo™, and varicose and spider vein removal.

Mason has found that helping patients feel better about their appearance and eliminating painful vein conditions

is as fulfilling as the work he did as a hospital surgeon—if not more so. But part of doing right by the patient is letting him or her know when a surgical procedure is unnecessary. "Sometimes, people don't need anything," says Mason. "I'll tell my patients if I feel a surgery isn't necessary or that a condition should be monitored before opting for surgery. That surprises a lot of people, but it builds a sense of trust. If I tell a patient they need something, they believe me."

Mason has no problem putting ethics ahead of profit, and because the practice is independent, he's able to do things how he wants to do them. "We're not a hospital, so the things we do are often much less expensive. The customer's always right here."

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