APPENDIX

TOPS (Tracking Operations and Outcomes for Plastic Surgeons, sponsored by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons) is a validated, self-reported database of patient outcomes after 4 to 6 weeks, including minor and major complications, by Board Certified plastic surgeons in the United States. It includes procedures done in office operating rooms, ambulatory surgery centers, and hospitals.

NSQIP (National Surgical Quality Improvement Project, sponsored by the American College of Surgeons) is a database of all surgeries done in selected United States hospitals by all surgical specialists. Data is entered from patient charts by trained abstractors and includes minor and major complications occurring within 30 days.

CosmetAssure is an insurance program for aesthetic surgery patients where a payment is made to the patient for treatment of a specific set of complications. Since minor complications that can be treated without hospitalization or additional costs are not reported to CosmetAssure, only major complications are likely to be reported and included in an analysis.