

Life + Style

The Mummy Tuck

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When it comes to beating the baby bulge, new Hollywood mums seem to set records for getting back into shape.

But the latest trend - the "mummy" tuck - where a tummy tuck is carried out at the same time as a caesarean is already drawing criticism.

British pop star Jamelia has spoken out against the radical cosmetic surgery, branding many celebrity mums as irresponsible for going to extremes to slim down after birth.

While Jamelia says she's not suggesting any celebs she knows have has the mummy tuck yet she thinks "it's an absolutely disgraceful procedure".

Brisbane gynaecologist Dr Gino Pecoraro says the procedure has been reported at international medical conferences recently. "There are doctors and gynaecologists in South America offering this to their patients and indeed some have been presented at international conferences," Dr Pecoraro says. "There's no reason why the procedure can't be done - it's just whether it should be done. "

Dr Howard Webster, spokesperson for the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons, is aghast at the emergence of the mummy tuck on the medical scene.

"A caesarean is a surgical procedure for the purpose of delivering a healthy baby. It's about the baby," he says. "At the end of a pregnancy, the woman's body is not in a normal state. Tissues are stretched and the demands of pregnancy and childbirth will have stressed a woman's body. "

Dr Webster urged any woman who knew of the mummy tuck procedure being performed in Australia to report the doctor involved.

Jane Worthington

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