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The features marked with a star (*) are based entirely on material taken straight from standard research (and other Official and Therefore Always Correct) literature. Many of the other articles are genuine, too, but we don't know which ones.

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Where There's More

There's always new improbable — it's not what you expect! — stuff on the **Improbable Research blog** at [IMPROBABLE.COM](https://improbable.com)

ANNALS OF

IMPROBABLE RESEARCH



On the Front Cover

Photo of a squirrel that died after getting its head stuck in a ball. This taxidermy specimen is stored in the Det Grønne Museum in Auning, Denmark. Photo: Kees Moeliker.



On the Back Cover

Photo of an abandoned bird's nest in the mouth of a large stone sculpture of a human face hanging on the wall of "Michelangelo's Cloister" in the Museo Nazionale Romano in Rome, Italy. Photo: A.S. Kaswell.



Some Coming Events

The Covid-19 pandemic has introduced excitingly boundless uncertainty as to whether, when, and where public activities will happen in the near future.

(See [IMPROBABLE.COM](https://improbable.com) for details of these and other events.)

September 12th, 2024

— The 34th First Annual Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony (and webcast).
MIT, Cambridge,
Massachusetts, USA

September 14th, 2024

— Ig Nobel Face-to-Face,
MIT Museum, Cambridge,
Massachusetts, USA

November (day TBA) 2024

— Ig Nobel Face-to-Face
Miraikan Museum, Tokyo, Japan

February 2025

— AAAS Annual Meeting,
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Spring 2025

— Ig Nobel EuroTour

May 23rd-26th, 2025

— Balticon,
Baltimore, Maryland, USA



BUTT DEATH RESEARCH

Deaths related to buttocks

compiled by Vijaya E. Toncks, Improbable Research staff

Florida, Cradle of Brazilian Butt-Lift Deaths

"Brazilian Butt Lift-Associated Mortality: The South Florida Experience," Pat Pazmiño and Onelio Garcia, Jr., *Aesthetic Surgery Journal*, vol. 43, no. 2, February 2023, pp. 162–178.

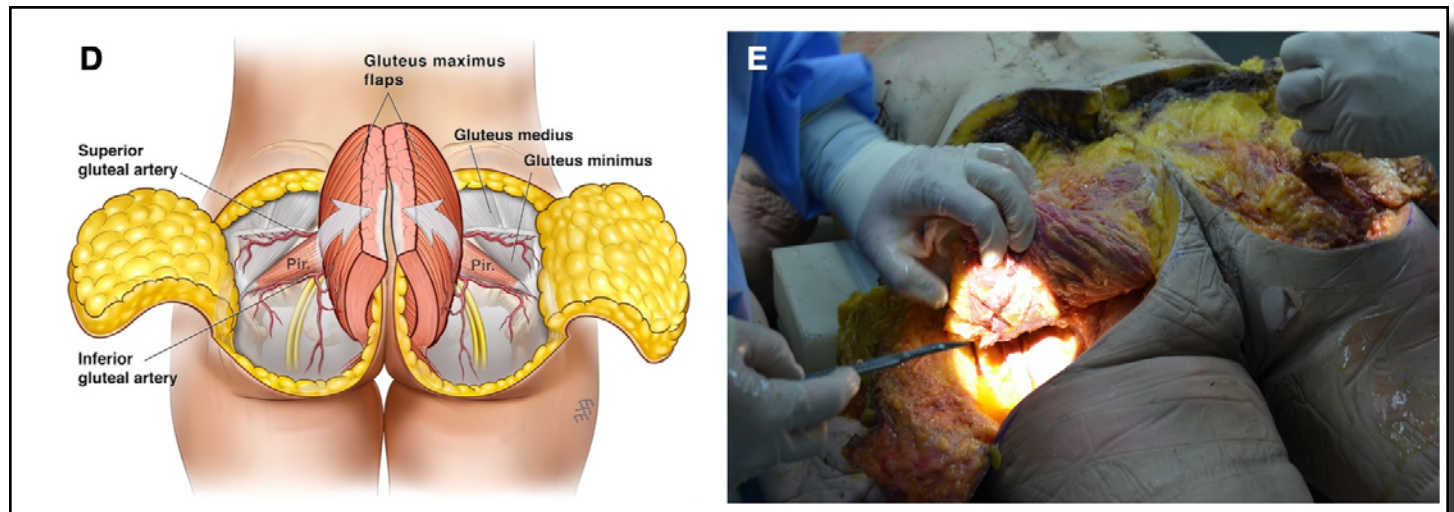
The authors explain:

Although BBL-related morbidity is generally associated with South Florida, it affects the entire nation. Plastic surgeons and primary care providers from around the United States routinely call about their patients who traveled to South Florida for a budget BBL, then returned home with serious complications and without reasonable means of contacting the physician who performed the surgery. These issues will only worsen as the high-volume, budget clinics of South Florida are now spreading across the United States, opening offices and bringing their practice model to new American cities.



Figure 1. Model validation team: Drs Onelio Garcia Jr., Joseph Finocchiaro, Richard D'Amico, Justin Fraioli, J. Peter Rubin, Pat Pazmiño, and David Turer.

Detail from the study.



Further detail from the study.