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## Women stranded at airport after cosmetic surgery – 13th October, 2017

### Level 4

Three Chinese women cannot leave a South Korean airport because their passport photos do not match their faces. The women just had cosmetic surgery. It changed their faces so much that passport officers cannot confirm their identity. Their faces were still swollen and bandaged. A website said the women were not allowed on their return flight to China. They were held for questioning at the airport. It is still unclear when the women can go back to China.

South Korea is the world's cosmetic surgery capital. Cosmetic surgery tourism from China is huge. Over 500,000 Chinese people go South Korean clinics each year. Many clinics specialize in the "Western" look. This is very popular with young South Korean women. Many parents encourage their children to have surgery so they look better in the job market. There are very popular prime time TV cosmetic surgery shows in South Korea.

### Level 5

Three Chinese women are stranded at a South Korean airport because their passport photos do not match their faces. The women just had cosmetic surgery to change their looks. The surgery changed their faces so much that passport control officers could not confirm their identity. Their faces were swollen from the surgery and were bandaged. Photos of the women went viral. A website reported that the women were not allowed on their return flight to China. They were held for questioning by airport authorities. It is still unclear when the women can return to China.

South Korea is the cosmetic surgery capital of the world. Cosmetic surgery tourism from China is booming. More than 500,000 Chinese people go to clinics in South Korea every year. Many clinics specialize in making clients look more "Western". Cosmetic surgery is also very popular with South Koreans. Around half of women under 30 in Seoul have probably had surgery. Many parents encourage their children to have surgery to get a "competitive edge" in the job market. There are even hugely popular TV shows that feature before and after transformations.

### Level 6

Three Chinese women were left stranded at a South Korean airport after immigration officials said their passport photos did not match their faces. The women had just had cosmetic surgery to change their looks. The surgery had transformed their faces to such an extent that passport control officials in South Korea could not confirm their identity. Photos of the women went viral on the Internet. Their faces were swollen from the surgery and were heavily bandaged. The Shanghaiist.com website reported that the women were not allowed to take their return flight back to China, and were instead held for questioning by the airport authorities. It is still unclear if the women have been able to return to China.

South Korea has become the cosmetic surgery capital of the world. Cosmetic surgery tourism from China is now booming business. More than 500,000 Chinese residents a year flock to clinics in South Korea to reshape their faces and bodies. Many of them go to clinics that specialize in making clients look more "Western". Cosmetic surgery is also hugely popular with South Koreans. Around half of women under 30 in the capital Seoul are estimated to have had surgery. Many parents encourage their children to undergo surgery in efforts to gain a "competitive edge" in the job market. There are even hugely popular prime time TV shows that feature before and after transformations.