

□ Clinical Elegance

Clinical elegance refers to:

- The pursuit of technically refined, visually impressive, or intellectually satisfying medical interventions.
- A style of clinical practice or surgical performance that emphasizes **aesthetic precision**, **procedural finesse**, and **minimal disruption**—often independent of whether these qualities improve **patient outcomes**.

⚠ Critical Use

In critical writing, **clinical elegance** may be used **ironically or pejoratively**, highlighting the **disconnect between surgical beauty and clinical utility**.

“The resection was clinically elegant — but the patient never woke up.”

It warns against:

- Prioritizing elegance over effectiveness
- Valuing innovation over evidence
- Confusing minimalism with minimal harm

□ Beware When...

- Outcomes are not reported
- Only intraoperative images or tools are shown
- Words like “precision,” “refined,” or “atraumatic” replace hard data

Synonyms (critical tone): surgical vanity, aesthetic neurosurgery, decorative medicine.

Opposite: Evidence-based pragmatism.

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