
Blepharoplasty (Eyelid Surgery) Consent

Patient Name**Date**

This is an informed consent document that has been prepared to help inform you of blepharoplasty surgery, its risks, as well as alternative treatments.

It is important that you read this information carefully and completely. Please read each page and sign the consent for surgery.

Introduction:

Blepharoplasty is the procedure used to remove excessive skin and muscle from both the upper and lower eyelids along with the underlying fatty tissue. Blepharoplasty can improve drooping skin and bagginess. It can help improve vision in older patients who have hooding of their upper eyelids. Although it can add an upper eyelid crease to the Asian eyelid, it will not erase evidence of one's racial or ethnic heritage. Blepharoplasty will not remove "crow's feet" or other wrinkles, eliminate dark circles under the eyes, or lift sagging eyebrows.

Blepharoplasty surgery is customized for every patient, depending on his or her particular needs. It can be performed alone involving upper, lower, or both eyelid regions, or in conjunction with other surgical procedures. Eyelid surgery cannot stop the process of aging.

Risks of Blepharoplasty Surgery:

Every surgical procedure involves a certain amount of risk and it is important that you understand the risks involved with blepharoplasty surgery. An individual's choice to undergo a surgical procedure is based on the comparison of the risk to potential benefit. Although the majority of patients do not experience the following complications, you should discuss each of them with you surgeon to make sure you understand all possible consequences of blepharoplasty surgery.

- 1) **Bleeding** - It is possible, though unusual, to experience a bleeding episode during or after surgery. Bleeding may occur under the skin or internally around the eyeball. Should post-operative bleeding occur, it may require emergency treatment to drain accumulated blood. Do not take any aspirin or anti-inflammatory medications for two weeks before the surgery, as this may increase the risks of bleeding. Accumulations of blood under the skin may delay healing and cause scarring.
- 2) **Infection** - Infection is unusual after this type of surgery. Should an infection occur, treatment including antibiotics or additional surgery may be necessary.
- 3) **Blindness** - Blindness is extremely rare after blepharoplasty. However, it can be caused by internal bleeding around the eye during surgery or after surgery. The occurrence of this is not predictable.
- 4) **Scarring** - Although good wound healing after a surgical procedure is expected, abnormal scars may occur both within the eyelid and deeper tissues. In rare cases, abnormal scars may result. Scars may be unattractive and of different color than surrounding skin. There is the possibility of visible marks in the eyelid or small skin cysts from sutures. Additional treatments including surgery may be necessary to treat abnormal scarring.
- 5) **Damage to Deeper Structures** - Deeper structures such as the eye, nerves, blood vessels, and eye muscles may be damaged during the course of surgery. The potential for this to occur varies with the type of blepharoplasty surgical technique performed. Injury to deeper structures may be temporary or permanent.
- 6) **Asymmetry** - The human face is normally asymmetrical. There can be a variation from one side to the other in the results obtained from a blepharoplasty procedure.
- 7) **Delayed Healing** - Wound disruption or delayed wound healing is possible.
- 8) **Allergic Reactions** - In rare cases, local allergies to tape, suture material, or topical preparations have been reported. Systemic reactions, which are more serious, may result from drugs used during surgery and prescription medicines. Allergic reactions may require additional treatment.

- 9) **Skin disorders/skin cancer** - A blepharoplasty is a surgical procedure to tighten the loose skin and deeper structures of the eyelid. Skin disorders and skin cancer may occur independently of eyelid surgery
- 10) **Ectropion** - Displacement of the lower eyelid away from the eyeball is a rare complication. Further surgery may be required to correct this condition.
- 11) **Corneal Exposure Problems** - Some patients experience difficulties closing their eyelids after surgery and problems may occur in the cornea due to dryness. Should this rare complication occur, additional treatments or surgery might be necessary.
- 12) **Eyelash Hair Loss** - Hair loss may occur in the lower eyelash area where the skin was elevated during surgery. The occurrence of this is not predictable. Hair loss may be temporary or permanent.
- 13) **Pain** - Very infrequently, chronic pain may occur after a blepharoplasty.
- 14) **Additional Surgery** - There are many variable conditions, which influence the long-term result of blepharoplasty surgery. Even though risks and complications occur infrequently, the risks cited are the ones that are particularly associated with these procedures. Other complications and risks can occur but are even more rare. Should complications occur, additional surgery or other treatments may be necessary. The practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science. Although good results are expected, there is no guarantee or warranty expressed or implied on the results that may be obtained.
- 15) **Women** - I have advised my doctor about my use of birth control pills. I understand that certain antibiotics and other medications are known to neutralize their effect and that conception and pregnancy can occur. I agree to consult with my family physician to initiate other forms of birth control during the period of my treatment for eyelid surgery and until I am advised by my physician that I can return to the exclusive use of birth control pills.

I have read and understand the above paragraphs and realize that blepharoplasty surgery carries with it certain serious risks. All my questions regarding this consent have been answered fully and to my satisfaction, and I fully understand the risks involved. I also state that I read, speak, and write English.

Patients or Legal Guardian's Signature

Date

Witness' Signature

Date

Doctor's Signature

Date