

# Blepharoplasty and Browplasty

## Blepharoplasty

Blepharoplasty (eyelid surgery) removes extra fat, tissue and skin from your eyelid. It is done to improve your appearance or vision.

### Upper blepharoplasty

An upper blepharoplasty is usually done when:

- your upper eyelid hangs down and interferes with your vision
- your upper eyelids are puffy and droopy
- you have a disappearing upper eyelid. (This makes it hard to apply eye makeup).

This procedure is usually done using local anesthesia. You may also be given a medicine to help you relax 1 hour before your surgery.

An incision is made in the crease of the eye and extra fat, tissue and skin are removed. The incision is closed with dissolvable stitches.

### Lower blepharoplasty

A lower blepharoplasty is usually done when you have crepey skin (thin, wrinkled skin) and fine lines below the eye, and puffy lower eyelids.

This procedure can be done under local or general anesthesia. You may also be given a medicine to help you relax 1 hour before your surgery.

An incision is made just below the lash line or on the inside of the eyelid. This will help reduce any scarring.

## Risks of a blepharoplasty

As with any medical procedures, there are possible risks. These can include:

- removal of too much or too little fat, tissue and skin
- a scar where the incision was made.

Rare risks include:

- infection
- bleeding
- loss of vision
- double vision
- not able to close your eyes.

## What to expect after a blepharoplasty

- You may have mild eyelid pain for a few days.
- You will have swelling and bruising on your eyelids for 1 to 2 weeks.
- You will not be able to wear contact lenses for 5 days after your surgery.
- You will not be able to do any strenuous (heavy) exercise for 2 weeks after your surgery.
- You should be able to return to work 5 to 10 days after your surgery.

Your first follow-up appointment will be 1 week after your surgery. You will have a second follow-up appointment 8 to 12 weeks after your surgery.

**(over)**

You will start to see the results of this surgery when your swelling and bruising start to get better – this can take 1 to 2 weeks. It can sometimes take up to 6 months to see your results.

## **Browplasty**

A browplasty (a brow lift) is done to lift droopy eyebrows.

An incision is made in the crease of the eye and the brow tissue is lifted to the normal position. A small device is used to hold the tissue in place while it is healing. It takes 30 to 60 days for the tissue to attach to the bone and heal. During this time, the device will gradually dissolve.

This procedure is often done with an upper blepharoplasty under heavy sedation or general anesthesia.

## **Insurance Coverage**

It is important to understand your health care benefits before your treatment. Blepharoplasty or browplasty may or may not be covered by your insurance provider.