

Procedures - Eyelids (Blepharoplasty) Info and FAQ's

This procedure removes excess skin, fat and muscle around the eye area. Eyelid surgery can enhance your appearance and self-confidence, but it will not dramatically alter your appearance. Some people have eyelid surgery to correct problems that are a result of aging, while others have inherited traits that cause them to seek treatment as earlier in life.

Eyelid surgery (Blepharoplasty) may be preformed as a "day case" although a short hospital stay may be necessary. Depending on the case the patient may require local or general anesthetic. Scaring is an inevitability of surgery although Dr Merten and Dr Rome will make every effort to keep the scares as minimal as possible. It is important to be aware that perfect symmetry cannot be assured, as the two sides of our face aren't usually identical. If the patient's intention is to correct forehead, temple or cheek crease a face or brow lift should really be considered.

What is Blepharoplasty?

Blepharoplasty is an aesthetic (cosmetic) surgical procedure on the upper and/or lower eyelids designed to remove excess skin folds and bulging fat bags. Blepharoplasty will improve the bags and wrinkles around the eyes but will not improve wrinkles of the cheeks, temples or forehead. It also does not correct problems caused by drooping eyebrows.

When is Blepharoplasty desirable?

You may wish to have a Blepharoplasty to improve your overall facial appearance, or to help correct the effects of aging; and this may be combined with a facelift.

How could this procedure help me?

A consultation with your plastic surgeon is the first step when you are considering a Blepharoplasty. You should frankly discuss your goals and expectations about looking and feeling better after surgery. You should always keep in mind that the desired result is improvement, not perfection.

Will I be hospitalised for the procedure?

Blepharoplasty may be performed as a Day Case or alternatively with a short hospital stay. The procedure may be performed under local anaesthesia (with or without sedation) or under general anaesthesia.

How is Blepharoplasty performed?

The procedure will vary depending on your physical features, the amount of skin and fat to be removed, and your surgeon's judgment. Usually, upper and lower eyelid incisions are marked along natural lines, and extend into the "crow's feet", or smile lines, at the outer edge of the eye. Following removal of excess skin and fat, the incisions are carefully closed. The procedure may take 1-2 hours.

Will the procedure leave any scars?

Scars are the inevitable result of any surgery, although your surgeon will make every effort to keep your scars as inconspicuous as possible. Thus the scars will be along natural skin lines and creases and will usually fade with time and become barely noticeable.

How important are psychological factors in relation to a Blepharoplasty?

Emotional stability is the primary factor to be considered before any aesthetic surgery is performed. A “new face” does not guarantee a new life or an end to all personal problems. It is mostly the mental attitude of the individual that determines a successful outcome. A Blepharoplasty can improve your appearance and renew your self-confidence; the rest is entirely up to you.

What results can I expect?

A successful operation will give you a more youthful and rested appearance. Skin folds and fat bulges will be removed and eyelid creases improved. To correct drooping eyebrows or creases of the forehead, temple or cheeks, other procedures such as a facelift or a browlift should be considered. Perfect symmetry cannot be guaranteed, as the two sides of our faces are usually not identical.

Are there any side effects of the procedure?

You may have some bruising and swelling around your eyes, lasting approximately two or three weeks. Temporary blurred vision and excessive tear production may also occur. You should follow your surgeon’s advice carefully to reduce the risk of complications. Your surgeon will discuss any other specific side effects of this procedure at your consultation.

When can I resume normal activities?

Most patients are able to return to work after 7-10 days (perhaps wearing sunglasses). Cosmetics can also be applied at this time but you must