

FEEL BEAUTIFUL

PLASTIC SURGERY

INFORMED CONSENT for BLEPHAROPLASTY (COSMETIC EYELID) SURGERY

INSTRUCTIONS

Please become fully informed about blepharoplasty (eyelid) surgery before proceeding with the operation. It is Dr. Laverson's responsibility to provide this information for you. It is your responsibility to become familiar with this information and to consider it when deciding whether or not to proceed. Read each paragraph completely. If you have questions or there are words you don't know, ask Dr. Laverson. Surgery is not an exact science. Because it is impossible to predict your outcome precisely in advance of the procedure, you should understand risks and possible complications of blepharoplasty. Your signature below confirms your understanding and your request for cosmetic surgery of the eyelids and/or adjacent areas.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of blepharoplasty is to create a more beautiful and/or youthful and/or awake appearance. Eyelids, brows, and cheeks are central determinants of your facial aesthetic. The position and shape of your eyelids, shadows cast by your surface contours, your skin quality, and other elements influence others' impression of you and your own impression of yourself. Blepharoplasty techniques usually (but not always) include removal of excess skin and rearrangement of muscle and/or fat of both the upper and lower eyelids. Underlying fat that produces an aging or tired appearance may be selectively removed or repositioned. 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 may only partially correct "crow's feet" or other wrinkles, and may only partially eliminate dark circles under the eyes. The operation does not 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 of the eye, face, brow, or nose. In some patients with diminished lower eyelid tension and support, tightening the lower eyelid (canthoplasty/canthopexy) at the time of blepharoplasty may be recommended. Eyelid surgery cannot stop the aging process. It can however open the upper eyelids for a more awake appearance, remove sagging upper eyelid skin, tighten and smooth loose wrinkled lower eyelid skin, remove bulges and "bags" of the eyelids, fill shadows and hollows, and lift cheeks to restore their youthful position.

ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS

Treatment alternatives include no surgery at all. Improvement of loose skin, fat bulges, and skin wrinkles may be accomplished by other treatments or surgery such as brow lift, Botox®, laser, fat or filler injections, chemical peel(s), or tretinoin. Other forms of eyelid surgery may be needed should you have disorders affecting the function of the eyelid such as drooping eyelids from muscle problems (eyelid ptosis) or looseness between the eyelid and eyeball (ectropion). Minor skin wrinkling may be improved through chemical skin-peels or other skin treatments. Risks and potential complications are associated with alternative forms of treatment. Botox® and laser treatment are other common procedures to improve the appearance of adult eyelids.

RISKS of BLEPHAROPLASTY SURGERY

Every surgical procedure involves risk. Please understand the risks involved. Your choice of surgical procedure depends on a comparison of expected benefit to known risks. Although most patients experience no complications, the following adverse outcomes and events have been associated with blepharoplasty (eyelid) surgery.

Bleeding- It is possible, though unusual, to have a bleeding episode during or after surgery. Bleeding may occur under the skin or internally around the eyeball. Should you develop post-operative bleeding, it may require emergency treatment or surgery. Do not take any aspirin or anti-inflammatory medications for ten days before surgery, as this may increase the risk of bleeding. Non-prescription "herbs" and dietary supplements may increase the risk of bleeding. Hypertension (high blood pressure) that is not under good medical control may cause bleeding during or after surgery. Accumulations of blood under the eyelids may delay healing and cause scarring.

Visual Changes / Blindness- Blurry vision and/or changes in visual acuity may occur after blepharoplasty, and are usually transient. If persistent, consultation with your ophthalmologist will be advised. Blindness is extremely rare after blepharoplasty. However, it can be caused by internal bleeding around the eye during or after surgery. The occurrence of this is not predictable.

Infection- Infection is very rare after surgery. Should an infection occur, additional treatment including antibiotics may be necessary.

Scarring- Although good wound healing after a surgical procedure is expected, abnormal scars may occur both within the eyelid and deeper tissues. Scars may be unattractive and of a different color than surrounding skin. Visible marks in the eyelid or small skin cysts from sutures are possible. Additional treatments may be needed to treat scarring. Use of tobacco and/or nicotine products (smoking, vaping, juuling, e-cigarettes, etc.) may increase the risk of wound healing problems and bad scars.

Damage to deeper structures- Deeper structures such as 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 procedure performed. Injury to deeper structures may be temporary or permanent. Nerve injury can cause numbness of the forehead or inability to close the eyes. These problems usually improve with time, but may never completely resolve.

Dry eye problems- Permanently decreased tear production can occur after blepharoplasty. The occurrence of this is rare and not entirely predictable. Individuals who normally have dry eyes may be advised to avoid blepharoplasty, or to proceed with special caution in considering blepharoplasty surgery. Use of eyedrops or medication may be indicated if dry eye develops.

Asymmetry- The human face and eyelids are normally asymmetric (Right and left sides not perfectly identical). There can be a variation from one side to the other following blepharoplasty surgery in one or more features of your eyelids.

Chronic pain- Chronic pain may occur very infrequently after blepharoplasty.

Skin disorders/skin cancer- Skin disorders and skin cancer may occur independently of eyelid surgery.

Corneal exposure problems- Some people are unable to close their eyelids after surgery. Problems may occur in the cornea due to dryness. This problem is most often temporary, but may be permanent. Should this complication occur, additional treatments or surgery may be necessary.

Disappointing cosmetic result- There is the possibility that you'll not like the result of your eyelid surgery. Surgery may result in visible deformities, loss of function, wound disruption, and loss of sensation. You may not like the results of surgery. Infrequently, it is necessary to perform additional

surgery to improve your results. Additional surgical procedures such as a browlift may be needed to correct eyebrow sagging which contributes to upper eyelid problems.

Ectropion/Eyelid malposition- Displacement or gravitational descent of the lower eyelid away from the eyeball or below its aesthetic position is possible. Surgery may be required to correct this condition and/or to improve your result.

Allergic reactions-Local allergies to tape, suture material, or topical preparations have been reported. Systemic reactions which are more serious may occur to drugs used during surgery and prescription medicines. Allergic reactions may require additional treatment.

Eyelash hair loss- Surgery may cause loss of some eyelashes. The occurrence of this is not predictable. Hair loss may be temporary or permanent.

Delayed healing- Wound disruption or delayed wound healing is possible. Use of tobacco and/or nicotine products (smoking, vaping, juuling, e-cigarettes, etc.) increase the risk of wound healing complications.

Long term effects- Subsequent alterations in eyelid appearance may occur as the result of aging, weight loss or gain, trauma, sun exposure, or other circumstances not related to cosmetic surgery. Blepharoplasty does not arrest the aging process or produce permanent tightening of the eyelids. Future surgery or other treatments may be necessary to maintain the results of a blepharoplasty.

Anesthesia- Both local and general anesthesia involve risk. There is the possibility of complications, injury, and even death from all forms of surgical anesthesia or sedation.

HEALTH INSURANCE

If skin covering the upper eyelids impairs your vision, health insurance sometimes covers blepharoplasty surgery for the upper eyelids only. Health insurance excludes cosmetic surgery such as lower eyelid blepharoplasty, and complications that may result from surgery. For further information, review your health insurance subscriber contract.

ADDITIONAL SURGERY NECESSARY

Many factors determine your final result after eyelid surgery. Although complications occur infrequently, the above risks are particularly associated with blepharoplasty surgery. Other problems may occur but are less common. If complications develop, additional surgery or other treatments may be indicated. Medicine and surgery are not exact sciences. Good results are expected, but there is **no guarantee or warranty** of any particular result.

Because the body and human tissues are dynamic and unpredictable, achievement of a particular aesthetic result may require more than one intervention, i.e. minor and occasionally major adjustments to the outcome after a single procedure. Depending on your situation and your expectations, serial (two or more) procedures may be necessary. In some cases, achieving your desired or visualized result may not be possible.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The cost of surgery involves charges for several services provided. The total includes federal, state, and local taxes, licensing, regulatory mandates, fees charged by Dr. Laverson, the anesthesiologist, the surgery center, and any devices, implants, or specialized equipment needed for the procedure. You are responsible for the total cost. If complications develop, additional unforeseen expenses may be incurred. You may be responsible for these as well. In the unfortunate (and unlikely) event this happens, Dr. Laverson tries to minimize additional expenses, but this cannot be predicted in advance.

Mental Health Disorders and Elective Surgery- All patients considering cosmetic surgery should have realistic expectations that focus on improvement rather than perfection. Complications or unsatisfactory results are sometimes unavoidable, may require additional surgery, and are often stressful. Before your procedure, openly discuss with Dr. Laverson any history that you have of

emotional depression or mental health disorders. Although most individuals benefit psychologically from cosmetic surgery, effects on mental health cannot be accurately predicted.

CONSENT FOR BLEPHAROPLASTY / EYELID PROCEDURE(S)

1. Dr. Steve Laverson and assistant(s) are requested and authorized to perform EYELID SURGERY / BLEPHAROPLASTY upon me. I have read and understand the above information about blepharoplasty (cosmetic eyelid surgery), and my questions have been answered.
2. Although truly rare, during the course of the operation, unforeseen conditions may necessitate different and/or additional procedures. Dr. Laverson is authorized to perform such procedures that are in his professional judgment necessary, desirable, and in my own best interest. The authority granted under this paragraph shall include conditions that require treatment and are not known to Dr. Laverson at the commencement of surgery.
3. I consent to the administration of anesthetics considered necessary or advisable. Anesthesia involves a small risk and the possibility of complications, injury, and rarely death.
4. NO GUARANTEE has been expressed or implied by anyone about the results of surgery.
5. My final result doesn't become apparent until at least six months following my procedure. The most important office visits happen at that future time. Committing to blepharoplasty also commits me to follow up 6 -12 months after the procedure.
6. I consent to the disposal of any tissue, medical devices or body parts which may be removed.
7. Photography is essential medical documentation before and after cosmetic surgery, and is important in my care. My facial photographs may be used for medical, scientific, and/or educational purposes, provided personally identifiable information (my name) is not associated with the pictures.
8. IT HAS BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME IN A WAY THAT I UNDERSTAND:
 - a. COSMETIC EYELID SURGERY (BLEPHAROPLASTY)
 - b. ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES OR METHODS OF TREATMENT
 - c. RISKS AND COMPLICATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH BLEPHAROPLASTY

I CONSENT TO COSMETIC EYELID SURGERY AND THE ABOVE LISTED ITEMS (1-8). I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS, MY QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED, AND I AM SATISFIED WITH THE EXPLANATION.

Patient or Person Authorized to Sign for Patient

Printed Name

Date _____ Witness _____