

Brow Lift

This material will help you understand brow lifts and prepare you for the procedure.

What is a brow lift?

A brow lift is a surgical procedure to improve the position of drooping eyebrows. It is sometimes called a forehead lift. The surgery can be performed for medical or cosmetic reasons. Specifically, it is a treatment for:

- Drooping brows that interfere with your vision
- Sagging brows that give the appearance of being sad or tired
- Furrowed brows or "frown lines"
- Lined or creased brows

What should I expect before the surgery?

Before you have surgery, your doctor will evaluate you and make sure you are a good candidate for the surgery. You will also discuss the issues that you would like to treat with this surgery. This will help the doctor prepare for the procedure. He/she will also discuss the possible risks and complications.

We typically ask patients to avoid any aspirin or blood thinners for a week prior to surgery. Your doctor will instruct you specifically as to which medications to stop prior to surgery and when to stop them. In addition, you should not smoke two weeks before and two weeks after surgery. This is because smoking affects blood flow and healing.

The operating room will call you one business day prior to surgery to give you your surgical time. The operating room nurse will go over any questions you may have. The nurse will tell you what time you will need to stop eating and drinking to prepare for surgery. The nurse will also let you know which of your regular medications NOT to take the morning of surgery. All other

medications, unless the nurse tells you NOT to take them, can be taken with a small sip of water on the morning of surgery.

What should I expect during the surgery?

On the day of surgery, be sure to arrange a responsible adult to come with you, wait during surgery, and go back home with you. This person may stay with you until you are brought into the operating room.

You should plan to spend 4-6 hours at the Kellogg Eye Center on the day of surgery. You will be able to return home the same day. Before going into surgery, your medications and recent health history will be reviewed. Before the surgery begins, you will be given local anesthesia or general anesthesia to keep you comfortable.

Your doctor will make incisions along your hairline or above your eyebrows. The exact location will depend on the technique that the surgeon uses. After making incisions, the surgeon will lift and reposition your forehead skin. Once the forehead and eyebrows are in the correct position, the tissue will be secured. Self-absorbing stiches will not require removal and will dissolve on their own. Staples or permanent sutures are removed at the first post-operative appointment.

What should I expect after surgery?

Your doctor will give you postoperative instructions on the day of your surgery. Depending on the details of your surgery, you will need to return to the Kellogg Eye Center between 1- 10 days after surgery for a follow-up appointment. Recovery from a brow lift takes several weeks. You will likely have some bruising and swelling. Your forehead may be taped or wrapped to help lessen these symptoms. You can apply a cold compress and keep your head elevated to help reduce these symptoms. You should avoid physical activities for 7 days

after surgery. If you have pain after the procedure, you can take your prescribed pain reliever. Your doctor may prescribe you an antibiotic ointment and/or eye drops. Follow your doctor's instructions on taking any medications.

What are the risks of a brow lift?

Like all surgeries, there are some risks associated with a brow lift. In the short-term, there is a chance that you will have bruising and swelling. Other risks include dryness and irritation of the eyes and scarring. Serious complications like excessive pain, bleeding, or infection are rare. Talk to your doctor about any concerns you have about the surgery.

For more information, scan this code with your smartphone or visit the website listed.



<http://www.asoprs.org/files/public/New.InfoBlephBrow.pdf>

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Author: Kristin Maurer, MPH candidate
Reviewers: Gale Oren, MILS and Cesar Briceno, MD

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