

# Patient Information

## **Eyelid Lift/Blepharoplasty Frequently Asked Questions**

Every year, thousands of men and women choose eyelid surgery (blepharoplasty) to improve the way they look. Blepharoplasty removes puffiness and bags under the eyes and corrects droopy eyelids which can even impair your vision and make you look and feel older.

The procedure works by removing the excess fat, muscle, and skin from both upper and lower lids. The results can be a refreshed appearance, with a younger, firmer eye area. However, the procedure cannot remove dark circles, lines and wrinkles around the eyes, nor can it change sagging eyebrows. Consultation with our oculoplastic surgeon can help you decide whether added Botox, dermal fillers, or forehead-lift surgery would help you achieve the look you desire.

### **Making The Decision**

Whether the surgery is desired for functional or cosmetic reasons, your choice of a qualified surgeon is of utmost importance. At Carolina Eye, our ophthalmic plastic surgeon specializes exclusively in surgery and reconstruction of the eyelids, eye orbit and tear duct system. Because of the unique training of this specialty, ophthalmic plastic surgeons are the most qualified practitioners to perform surgery around the eyes.

During the pre-surgical consultation, you will be examined and asked to answer questions concerning your vision and your desire for surgery. Your surgeon will explain what you can expect from blepharoplasty. Factors to be weighed include age, skin type, ethnic background, and degree of vision obstruction.

### **Insurance**

Insurance does not generally cover surgery that is done purely for cosmetic reasons. Surgery to correct or improve vision or surgery for eye deformity or injury may be reimbursable in whole or in part.

For those who are on a fixed budget, we offer the services of CareCredit to help with non-insured procedures. CareCredit is a flexible payment program specifically designed for healthcare expenses. There are no pre-payment penalties or fees. For more information about CareCredit, you can call them at 800.677.0718 or you can visit them online at [www.carecredit.com](http://www.carecredit.com).

### **About The Surgery**

The blepharoplasty procedure is done in our outpatient surgery center under local anesthesia. In upper eyelid surgery an incision is made in the crease of the lid and excess fat, muscle, and loose skin are removed. In lower eyelid surgery the incision is in an inconspicuous site along the lashline where fat, muscle, and skin are then trimmed away. The procedure takes about one to two hours depending on the extent of the procedure.

### **What To Expect After Surgery**

Immediately after the surgery has been completed, an ointment to prevent dryness of the eye area is used. A certain degree of swelling and bruising is normal. Cold compresses, as well as head elevation when lying down, will enhance healing and relieve discomfort.

### **In Closing**

Eyelid surgery makes it possible to correct many flaws and signs of premature aging that can undermine self-confidence. Facial plastic surgery can not only change how you look, but also help change how you feel about yourself.

### **Where can I get more information?**

For more information, visit us at [www.carolinaeye.com](http://www.carolinaeye.com) or contact our patient services counselor by phone at 910.295.1501 or 800.733.9355, or by email at [info@carolinaeye.com](mailto:info@carolinaeye.com).

If at any time you need to reach our main center, please call 910.295.2100 or 800.733.5357.