

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS OF BLEPHAROPLASTY

INFECTION – Infection of the eyelid is possible, but very rare.

ASYMMETRY – Unevenness of the eyelids, eyelid folds, or incisions can occur but is usually due to the asymmetry present before surgery. I will do my best to correct any asymmetry; however your anatomy may prevent me from correcting what you were born with.

DRY EYE SYNDROME – Occasionally a patient without dry eyes symptoms (e.g. eye irritation, eye watering) prior to surgery develops dry eye symptoms in the early period following surgery. When this occurs, lubricating eye drops are required. With time the condition will resolve and return to normal.

BLEEDING - Minor bleeding or oozing from the incision site is common and is controlled by placing cold compresses over the eyes. Bleeding behind the eye can cause a bulging eye, severe pain and significant visual changes. If you experience any of these symptoms, contact our office.

IMPAIRED VISION OR BLINDNESS – As mentioned above bleeding behind the eye can cause serious vision problems one of which is blindness. It is the worst possible complication of Blepharoplasty and every patient should know this has been reported, but is **extremely rare**.

PROLONGED CHEMOSIS – Occasionally a small clear "water bags" develop around the sclera or white part of the eyeball. It is painless and usually resolves in about 6 weeks, but can take longer.

ECTROPION – Is when the lower eyelid heals too tightly and the eyelid margin (lash line) causing the lid to turnout / down. It usually resolves spontaneously. If it does not resolve a surgical procedure may be needed to attempt correction. If I feel your eyelids are too loose from aging or genetics I will recommend an eyelid tightening procedure to help prevent ectopion.

MILIA - Milia are small whiteheads that can occur on the incision line. They resolve with time.

POOR SCARRING – Healing is generally beyond the control of the surgeon once closure of the incision has been performed. If healing results in an unacceptable scar (1% or less), a minor revision may be considered if I feel improvement can be achieved. Generally 6-12 months are needed to assess an undesirable scar. With time an incision site becomes nearly imperceptible.

LIMITED RESULTS/REVISION SURGERY – When an expected result is not achieved following Blepharoplasty it may be because a forehead lift was not performed. The Blepharoplasty alone sometimes produces limited results for this area. Generally, if a forehead lift is needed I will recommend this at the time of consultation. If after full recovery a Blepharoplasty revision is felt needed by both the patient and surgeon, fees will be charged based on the extent of the revision.