

WHAT TO EXPECT FOLLOWING BLEPHAROPLASTY

DISCOMFORT – Mild to moderate discomfort is normal. If your pain is severe or not relieved by pain medication, especially if only on one side please call me.

BRUISING – Bruising is generally mild with some eyelid discoloration. In some patients it can be more extensive but still within normal range. The degree of bruising does not affect your final result or affect your recovery time. Bruising takes 7-14 days to resolve and sometimes longer. Occasionally, you may notice a bright red spot on the white part of the eye; do not be alarmed, this will resolve.

SWELLING – Swelling of the surgical area reaches its peak in 2-3 days. The majority of this swelling will resolve in 2 to 4 weeks, sometimes it may take longer.

CHEMOSIS – Is swelling of the tissue that lines the eyelids and surface of the eye. The condition occurs due to irritation. About 1 in 10 patients will experience Chemosis after eyelid surgery. It is important to rest your eyes during your first week to help prevent this from occurring. If this occurs you will see swelling of the lining around the white part of the eye, which looks like tiny "water bags". Generally this will resolve in about 6 weeks, but can take longer. Chemosis does not affect your final result.

TIGHTNESS – The eyelids may feel "tight" at first. This sensation will improve as the bruising and swelling resolve and healing progresses.

SLOW BLINK – During your recovery blinking may seem slower. This resolves as healing occurs and will return to normal. If your eyes feel dry or irritated over the counter eye drops (liquid tears, wetting solutions, GenTeal) will be helpful.

BLURRY VISION and EYE IRRITATION – Sensitivity to light, eye irritation and blurriness of vision are common nuisance symptoms. To avoid these conditions limit the amount of time you spend reading, use of computer or other activities that require high demands on your eyes, wear sunglasses and use over-the-counter non-preservative moisturizing eye drops for relief. If severe let us know, especially if it is only on one side. Mild symptoms are common and generally resolve in 2 weeks, but can last longer.

TEARING – Excessive tearing may indicate that you may have "dry eyes" or an irritation from another cause such as allergies. Call me if this is severe to determine if further evaluation or therapy is needed.

INCISION LINE – Suture will be removed 7 days following surgery. Incisions will be very pink at first and lighten with time (6-12 months). Eyelid incisions heal very well and aesthetically.

FEELING DOWN – It is not uncommon to feel a little down starting 1-3 days following surgery. This is normal and will pass as healing occurs.

FINAL RESULT – In 2 weeks you can see a significant improvement, however, it takes 6-12 month to see the final result. It just gets better with time. Patience is important.