

**POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS OF OTOPLASTY**

**BLEEDING** – Bleeding or development of a hematoma (blood collection) requiring treatment occurs 1%, or less, of the time.

**INFECTION** – Occurs in 1% to 2% of patients requiring a change in antibiotics or sometimes a minor surgical procedure.

**ASSYMMETRY OR IRREGULARITY** – Every attempt is made to make the ears symmetrical. Occasionally slight asymmetries or irregularities occur, often due to pre-existing differences of the ears. If this asymmetry is noticeable, and I feel improvement can be achieved, surgical revision will be considered.

**POOR SCARRING** – This occurs occasionally. The incision although hidden behind the ear can occasionally develop a “hypertrophic” or enlarged scar. Medical therapy and sometimes a surgical revision are needed.

**EXTRUSION OF SUTURES** – The new shape of the ear is held with permanent suture. Very uncommonly a suture will work its way through the skin and become exposed. If this occurs it is removed. The ear usually maintains its shape. If it does not, a revision procedure may be needed.

**LIMITED RESULTS** – Occasionally ear reshaping cannot achieve the desired result. If I feel further improvement can be achieved I will suggest revision surgery.

**NEED FOR REVISION SURGERY** – If a revision surgery is felt needed by both the patient and surgeon, fee will be charged based on the extent of the revision procedure.