



**TOTONCHI**  
PLASTIC SURGERY

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### **Care after Brow Lift**

This page contains answers to frequently asked questions regarding your care after brow lift surgery. This information will help you to remember the instructions given to you after surgery.

#### **What will I see when I look in the mirror?**

The incisions will be repaired with very fine sutures within the hairline. The sutures are underneath the skin and will dissolve on their own. The eyes and forehead may be bruised and puffy. The eyelids may be more swollen in the morning and improve gradually during the day. It will take approximately 7-10 days for the bruising and swelling to resolve.

#### **How will my forehead feel?**

In general, the forehead is not very painful but will feel a bit tight. Your eyes may feel dry since they may get swollen. You can use eye drops to lubricate the eyes.

#### **When can I shower or take a bath?**

You can normally bathe or shower 3-4 days after surgery using a mild soap/shampoo. Avoid using very hot water. Pat the area dry and put a thin layer of bacitracin ointment on each surgical incision.

#### **When can I color my hair?**

We suggest waiting 6-8 weeks after surgery to use hair dyes.

#### **What can I do after surgery?**

You should take it easy for several days after surgery and gradually increase your activity as you feel more comfortable. You should sleep in a semi-reclined position, for 3-5 days after surgery to minimize swelling. You should not do any heavy lifting, strenuous exercise, or weight lifting for 4 weeks. You will need to return to your normal exercise routine gradually.

### **When can I drive?**

You can drive after you have stopped taking prescription pain relievers, and any eye swelling has resolved.

### **How much pain will I have?**

There is not much pain associated with the brow lift procedure. Your forehead may feel tight and “full”. The most discomfort you will have lasts the first 3-5 days. You will be given a prescription for pain medication at the time of surgery. Take the medication as directed if needed. The pain medication will make you feel drowsy so please have someone at home to assist the first 3 days post op. Do not drive while taking prescription pain medications.

### **When can I drink alcohol?**

You can drink alcohol 7 days after your procedure if you are not taking pain medication.

### **When will I be seen in the office after surgery?**

You will normally be seen in the office 3-5 days after your surgical procedure and then at 2 weeks, one month, three months, six months and a year healing and results. Additional appointments may be necessary.

### **How will I know if I am having a problem?**

Urgent problems don't frequently occur with brow lift surgery. These are the complications that will require a change in your post-operative care:

**Vision problems** If you experience any change in vision, “flashing lights”, loss of peripheral vision, contact the office immediately.

### **Hematoma**

The warning signs are:

- Severe pain that does not respond to medication
- Significant swelling in an isolated area
- Excessive bruising in one area compared to another

### **Infection**

It is normal to have a small amount of drainage from your incisions for 1-2 days after surgery. Signs of infection:

- Increased redness around the incisions
- Increased drainage from the incisions
- Increased temperature/fever

**Leg swelling** with or without associated pain may indicate a problem with the vein circulation in your leg(s). Although some swelling is to be expected due to your surgery, IV fluids given during surgery and your decreased level of activity, this swelling is normally mild, painless and affects both legs evenly. If you have a large amount of leg swelling of either one or both legs, or if you experience pain in your legs, contact the office immediately.

**Breathing problems** after brow lift surgery are rare but serious complication. If you develop any chest and/or back pain, or feeling of shortness of breath, you must contact the office immediately or be seen in the nearest emergency medical facility without delay.

**Medication reactions** can occur with the drugs prescribed to you. If you develop a skin rash, itching, vomiting, or diarrhea, stop taking the medication and notify the office.

If you have any of the above problems or other questions, contact my office at 440-461-7999