

## FACELIFT

facelift is one of the most popular procedures in cosmetic surgery  
If you consider having this surgery ,you need to know a few things about it.

### 1) What happens during the initial consultation?

- You will meet your surgeon and will tell him exactly what you want, why you want it and for how long.
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- You will be asked to give information about your previous operations (cosmetic and non cosmetic), your health condition, your current medications, your allergies to medications, if you are a smoker or not.
- You will be asked to say what ,you think ,is wrong with your nose.
- Your surgeon will examine you, and will take some measurements.
- Then, the whole operation will be explained to you in details,including:
  - the type of anesthesia (general)

- the incisions (length , position (inside/in front your hairline in the temple ,and in the mastoid areas, and inside your ears but sometimes ,underneath your chin) ,and outcome)

- the work performed on the cheek bone,the cheeks, the neck,the jowls

- the necessity or not to do your eyelids at the same time, or a liposuction to your neck or a peel/dermabrasion around your mouth,or a fat injection to your nasolabial folds

- the type of sutures used, the type of dressing.

As you are usually staying overnight, your dressing will be removed the next day, and your stitches one week and two weeks after the surgery.Then, you are supposed to take it easy for a month, avoiding all sports

- Generally,photographs are taken

### 2)What happens when you decide to go ahead with yours surgery?

You call the office ;we book the hospital for you.

you will have to do a blood test( usually in a private lab),mostly to check your red and white cells and your coagulation.

Before the operation, you are not supposed to take aspirin or similar tablets.

You will have to stop eating, drinking and smoking 6 hours before the

operation.

You will see your surgeon before going to theater and have time to ask him any question you forgot to ask before. He will ask you to sign a consent form, where all the possible risks are mentioned.

-Then, you will meet the anesthetist and you will be taken to theater. Your operation takes about one hour. You will spend half an hour in recovery, before being taken back to your room. You will be discharged the next morning before 12 noon

### 3) How does one decide the amount that should be pulled and lifted.?

The surgeon will take in consideration, your wishes and also the quality of your skin. You can see results of previous patients but, there is obviously a limit to what can be done. It has to look natural.

### 4) What happens after the surgery?

-Back home you are supposed to take it easy: no sport, no heavy lifting for 3-4 weeks  
-You cannot wash your face for one week, you cannot drive for one week.  
-You might be in pain and will need to take some painkillers. You will be told to take some antibiotics for one week  
-You are supposed to come back to the clinic after one week for the first wound check (but you can contact the office anytime in between), for stitches removal and then you will see your surgeon on the second week. After this first post operative consultation, you will see your surgeon, one month, 3 months and 6 months after the surgery. Then, it will only be once a year

The initial swelling will disappear within 3 weeks, but the rest can take up to one year or more.

### 5) What are the risks of this operation?

Apart from the usual side effects (pain (3-5 days), swelling, numbness), there are some potential risks, which are still very rare:

- bleeding:
- bruising
- infection
- nerve palsy (very rare, and, generally, disappears in a few weeks)
- asymmetry

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-limits of the operation (this is not magic and you won't get the face you had when you were 18)

-numbness

Again all these risks of complications are rare, but remember that surgery is not an exact science and there is no magic in surgery.

**Would you have more questions, do not hesitate to ask your surgeon, who will be always pleased to see you again during a second consultation**