## MARK E. GOLD MD FACS Plastic Surgery

Board Certified: **American Board of Plastic Surgery** 

Member:

American Society of Plastic Surgeons The American College of Surgeons

## **Brow Lift**



Brow lift is the technical term for repositioning tissues of the upper face. A brow lift restores contours and appearance of a more youthful or fresher upper face and brow, contours which have been distorted by gravity pulling and loosening tissues over time.

As the brows are lifted, the eyes appear more open and refreshed. As part of this procedure, the muscles that created frown lines are weakened in order to create a smoother appearing forehead.

Dr. Gold will discuss your areas of concern during your consultation and demonstrate the degree of correction you can expect in each area.

A brow lift does not stop the clock. It simply "resets" it. How long a brow lift lasts depends on many factors including the characteristics of your tissues. You'll notice some loosening within a few months following a brow lift, but you may never regain the degree of your original deformity. Some patients will request a less extensive tightening procedure in 10 years to maintain the best possible appearance.

A brow lift is often combined with other procedures to simultaneously correct other areas such as the lower face or eyelid.

#### Limitations

Brow lift procedures can be limited by certain characteristics of your tissues. Some examples are:

- · Thick, heavy, oily skin
- Sun damaged skin
- Excessive fatty tissue
- Changes in the tissue from previous procedures

The goal of a brow lift is to make you look as good as possible for your age, not necessarily to make you appear twenty years younger.

Dr. Gold will discuss specific limitations with you (if there are any) at the time of your consultation.

#### **Risks**

Brow lift procedures involve more risk in smokers. Nicotine causes constriction of the blood vessels, which supply the skin, reducing blood flow and increasing the risk of skin loss. If you are someone who smokes, Dr. Gold will make specific recommendations to reduce those risks.

If you have hypertension or high blood pressure, it must be properly controlled prior to surgery. We will co-ordinate this with your Internist or Family Physician.

There is a very small risk of impairing nerves which control facial movement during a brow lift surgery. Dr. Gold will discuss this in more detail during your consultation.

Other risks common to all surgical procedures such as bleeding, infection and scar tissue formation occur in a very small percentage of cases. We encourage you to discuss any concerns you may have during your consultation.

#### The Operation

Incisions for a brow lift are carefully concealed within the hair in the area of the temples, and generally across the corona of the scalp. The scalp hair is not shaved during surgery. Dr. Gold will discuss specific incision locations with you during your consultation.

To reposition your forehead tissue, skin and deeper tissues of the face are first very carefully mobilized. The deeper tissues and skin are then repositioned in a generally upward and backward direction to reposition and retighten them to a more satisfactory location.

In the frown area, the corrugator and procerus muscles are cut in order to weaken your ability to frown.

After redraping the skin and soft tissues, excess tissue is removed and the incisions carefully closed.

#### **Recovery In General**

Recovery from plastic surgical procedures is generally very rapid, and varies slightly from person to person.

All of your incisions will be carefully closed with stitches. You'll be able to wash your hair the next day.

You'll feel some tightness in the forehead area following surgery. This assures that you'll have the best possible long-term result. Most of the tight feeling resolves in the first two weeks.

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#### The Stages Of Recovery

Our patients usually want to know about four stages of recovery: hospitalization time, when swelling or bruising is resolved, when they'll be able to return to work or social activity, and when they can return to full aerobic or strenuous exercise.

### For face and neck procedures, the average:

**Hospitalization time**: Brow lift surgery is performed as an in office procedure. For your convenience, Dr. Gold has a fully accredited surgical suite in his office. No hospitalization is required.

Bruising and swelling resolve: 5-10 days.

Return to work, social activity: 10-21days.

Aerobic or strenuous activity: 14-21 days.

We encourage returning to full normal activity immediately. Don't do any type of strenuous exercise that would push your pulse over 100 for about two to three weeks. Any aerobic activity that increases your pulse over 100 also increases your blood pressure, and could make you bleed.