

Eyelid Surgery

With age, once bright, rested, and alert-looking eyes begin to appear tired, small, droopy, and/or swollen. The most disheartening thing is that, not only is there no real way to prevent these changes, but tired-looking eyes seem to affect the overall appearance of one's face. Eyelid surgery—technically titled *blepharoplasty*—is a procedure that tightens upper eyelids and removes excess folds, smoothes lower eyelids (under-eye bags), or both; the result is a rejuvenated appearance as well as improved vision, as sagging eyelids often interfere with sight. For these reasons, eyelid surgery was the fourth most common cosmetic procedure in 2006, following closely behind breast augmentation, rhinoplasty, and liposuction.*

About the Procedure

Eyelid surgery lasts between one and three hours and is performed on-site, at our fully accredited surgery center, during which time you are comfortably under general anesthesia. Following the procedure, you will spend a couple of hours in our relaxing recovery suite, after which, you are free to return home under the supervision of a friend or family member.

Your surgeon begins the procedure by making incisions following the natural lines of your eyelids, strategically placed in the creases of the upper lids and just below the lashes in the lower lids to be nearly invisible. Working through these incisions, he delicately separates the skin from underlying fatty tissue, removes the excess fat—trimming sagging skin and muscle if necessary—then contours the area. Once tightened and smoothed, the threadlike incisions are closed using very fine, self-dissolving sutures. For patients who have a pocket of fat beneath the lower lids but do not need skin removed, the Beautologie surgeons can perform a transconjunctival blepharoplasty, where the incision is made *inside* the lower eyelid, leaving a completely hidden scar; this procedure is usually performed on younger patients with thicker, more elastic skin.

Why Beautologie?

Eyelid surgery is generally performed by Dr. Brett Lehocky who is proudly certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery and a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons; this means he has met the highest standards in the field of plastic and reconstructive surgery. Recognized as one of the industry's leading facial surgery specialists, Dr. Lehocky **performs over 100 eyelid surgeries a year**. This enables him to be intimately familiar with the intricate landscape of the face and enables patients of Beautologie to benefit from his artful sculpting of the upper and lower lid regions. Additionally, the use of self-dissolving sutures means there are no worries regarding suture removal.

Another significant consideration is that, at Beautologie, we place the utmost importance on the comfort and safety of patients. Beautologie Surgery Center is certified by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC), which means the staff is trained and equipped to provide the same emergency care as available in hospitals; although the Beautologie doctors have never experienced a life-threatening emergency, they undergo continuing education to remain prepared. This focus on safety is combined with our trademark post-operative care, which includes healing scars via follow-up treatments and special creams (at no additional cost); depending on your genetics, we can fade most scars to a pencil-thin, nearly invisible, white line. Of equal importance, our doctors understand that cosmetic surgery requires serious consideration: **We encourage patients to ask questions, as we are extremely empathetic to patient concerns and inquiries.**

Results

In the days following your procedure, bruising and swelling of the eyelids and surrounding area will gradually appear; this will resolve itself, again gradually, within approximately 10 to 14 days. At that time, your fresh, wide-eyed, more youthful look will be visible: Upper eyelids will be smooth and puffiness reduced, lower bags removed, excess skin and fine wrinkles below the eye softened, and eyesight unobstructed. Another benefit of blepharoplasty is that women enjoy the ability to easily apply makeup on now-smooth eyelids, as opposed to struggling to place eyeliner or shadow between folds of skin. When performed in conjunction with a brow lift, a patient's entire visual expression can be transformed to that of someone years younger, while maintaining completely natural appearance and movement.

Am I a Candidate?

You are likely a candidate if:

- You are over 18 and in good physical health
- You are in good psychological health and have realistic expectations about the outcome of surgery
- You are free from serious eye conditions, and your anatomy doesn't preclude you from having a complication-free surgery
- You are a non-smoker or willing to quit for at least two weeks prior to surgery

We invite you to make an appointment for a complimentary evaluation of your status. During your consultation, we will be able to provide you with realistic goals and expectations.

*According to data obtained by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS)



-Before-



-After-

"I was extremely impressed with Dr. Shah from the first meeting. The results of my surgery are even better than I could have imagined. I love my new body! Dr. Shah and his staff made the process smooth and went out of their way to make me feel comfortable."

J.M.



-Before-



-After-



-Before-



-After-



-Before-



-After-

"I was very happy with my surgery of course, but I was also very pleased with how personable Dr. Shah and the staff were - they took care of me exactly the way I wanted to be cared for!"

J.A.



-Before-



-After-



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Beautologie

COSMETIC SURGERY & LASER CENTER

Eyelid Surgery

The Initial Consult

Your safety and the success of your procedure are highly dependent on your candor during the initial consultation; therefore, make sure to answer all questions thoroughly and honestly.

Your surgeon will likely discuss:

- Medical history, current conditions, risk factors, and drug allergies
- Reasons for undergoing the surgery including expectations and desired outcome
- Current use of medications, vitamins, and herbal supplements and past and present use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs
- Previous surgeries

During your consult, your surgeon will evaluate the above, examine the eyelid areas, and discuss potential outcomes of surgery as well as the rare risks. (If you have any health issues or are over 45 years of age, an exam/approval from your primary care physician will be required.) Remember, the consultation is your chance to ask questions and voice your concerns—the **Beautologie doctors are happy to take as much time as necessary to provide answers to any and all of your questions.**

What the Procedure Won't Do

Blepharoplasty is designed to smooth, define, and remove sagging of the upper eyelids and eliminate under-eye bags. While lower eyelid surgery often reduces fine wrinkles under the eye, neither upper nor lower will remove crow's feet or other deep wrinkles, eliminate dark circles, or lift sagging eyebrows. To accomplish the above, blepharoplasty may be done in conjunction with a brow lift, facelift, Botox™, fillers, or peels.

Costs of Surgery

As with other procedures, the cost of eyelid surgery will vary depending on the experience of the surgeon and the complexity of the procedure. Remember, a procedure offered significantly below market value is usually a sign of inexperience or cutting corners on the part of the surgeon. **For your convenience, Beautologie offers patient financing plans that are extremely affordable, and you will find the costs of procedures at Beautologie very comparable to those of surgeons with similar expertise.**

About Recovery

During your pre-op consultation, we will discuss the details of your recovery including aftercare, dissolution of sutures, how to apply prescribed ointments and administer medications (for pain and to reduce the risk of infection), and when you can safely resume activity and wearing contact lenses and makeup. At Beautologie, all procedures benefit from our excellence in post-operative care, which includes follow-up visits for as long as necessary as we diligently fade the incision(s) with specially designed tapes and/or creams. The most important thing is to follow our instructions with regard to post-op activity and precautions. Our team is comprised of some of the industry's leading cosmetic surgeons, so when it comes to recovery, we have thought of everything—we make sure you are fully prepared mentally and physically prior to undergoing surgery.

Please feel free to discuss all of your recovery concerns with your surgeon, including:

- Which medications will I be prescribed?
 - When/how do my stitches dissolve?
 - When can I resume normal activity and exercise?
 - When can I shower and resume wearing contact lenses and makeup?
 - When do I start my follow-up care?
 - What results can I expect?
- How will the addition of a brow lift enhance my results and affect my recovery?

*Remember, blepharoplasty is an outpatient procedure; you will need someone to drive you home from our center, as well as to stay with you for at least the first night after surgery.

Risks of Surgery

We are proud to say that we have never experienced a serious surgical complication; in fact, over 99% of patients undergo the procedure with only minimal to no side effects at all. However, no procedure is 100% risk free. The doctor and his staff will explain, in detail, any risks associated with your procedure, as well as ask that you read and sign consent forms to make certain you fully understand such risks. As you will notice, we go above and beyond to prevent complications. However, many post-operative occurrences are in your hands: You must plan an appropriate amount of time for recovery and limit your activities. Again, we encourage you to ask any and all questions regarding potential complications and how you can minimize the chance of their occurrence.

Possible risks of eyelid surgery include:

Unfavorable scarring (very rare, as the skin of the eyes heals extremely well, and most often caused by genetic scar syndromes or not following post-operative care instructions); temporarily blurred or impaired vision (usually resolves within two or three days); dry eyes (usually resolves within a few days); difficulty closing eyes (extremely rare and usually resolves within a few weeks); lid lag (a pulling down of the lower eyelid) (most often temporary); ectropion (a rare rolling of the lower eyelid outwards); bleeding (hematoma); infection or poor wound healing (very rare and reduced by the pre- and post-operative antibiotics and careful care of the patient); standard anesthesia risks; pain, which may persist (pain with this procedure is usually minimal and well tolerated); skin discoloration and swelling (usually resolves within a couple of weeks); spontaneous surfacing of sutures through skin and/or sutures producing irritation; possibility of revisional surgery (very rare, as Beautologie boasts one of the lowest



As people age, the eyelid skin stretches, muscles weaken, and fat accumulates around the eyes, causing "bags" above and below.

The surgeon closes the incisions with fine sutures, which will leave nearly invisible scars.



Before surgery, the surgeon marks the incision sites, following the natural lines and creases of the upper and lower eyelids.

Underlying fat, along with excess skin and muscle, can be removed during the operation.



In a transconjunctival blepharoplasty, a tiny incision is made inside the lower eyelid and fat is removed with fine forceps. No skin is removed, and the incision is closed with dissolving sutures.

After surgery, the upper eyelids no longer droop and the skin under the eyes is smooth and firm.