

VENICE PLASTIC SURGERY

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Cosmetic, Reconstructive, Face, Breast, and Hand Surgery

Face Lift

A face lift or Rhytidectomy addresses the lower cheek area and the upper neck. Here skin is removed from in front of and from behind the ear and the remaining skin is then pulled back. Scars in these areas are tolerated well by most people. Sagging and the lines associated with aging are reduced.

What can be expected? Skin is tighter and there is less sagging. Large lines are less deep and less obvious generally. The very fine lines are less effected.

Often other procedures are added and performed at the same time or in separate surgeries a few weeks or months later. A patient may have her eyes lifted as well. This is also known as a Blepharoplasty.

Some people have cosmetic procedures done at an earlier age. The results are less striking but then less noticed. Follow up procedures may need to be done as time goes on. This way you can keep the fresher look without having the surgery be so obvious. Others choose to wait until later in life and want the changes to be more obvious. This is OK as well. There is no maximum age limit to cosmetic surgery. It is your overall health condition that is the limiting factor.

People always ask how long the cosmetic procedure will last. The answer is that it lasts forever and at the same time it does not even last a day. Use identical twin sisters as an example. Say they are 50 years old. One has a face lift and the other does not. Both will continue to age at the same rate even after surgery. But the one who had the surgery is starting over from an earlier level. If they somehow looked 10 years younger after surgery then it may be that this sister will always look 10 years younger than the other one. In this respect, the surgery lasts forever. The person who had the cosmetic procedure should always look better than they would if they never had the operation.

The results vary and are dependent on the patients own limitations. Some people use a computer to show pictures of what the results may be after Cosmetic Procedures but many surgeons no longer do this. Yes, the skin can be tightened but the results are still variable. Yes fat can be removed but the contours change over time.

Healing and scar maturation actually take up to 12 - 18 months. People may look bruised and obviously swollen for a month or two. Generally people start to look better than their pre-surgery state by the end of the first month after Aesthetic Surgery. The results continue to improve month after month. When pictures are taken after surgery to show the best achieved result the time is at one year.

Healing is a worry for face lift surgery. The skin is pulled tight and healing is therefore slower. If the skin is damaged from previous sun exposure and smoking then healing is slower yet. Skin is pulled tightest behind the ear. This is usually the last area to heal fully.

Review the section on Limitations and Risks of Cosmetic Surgery

**The above represents the opinion of A. E. Haas, M.D.
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Just call us directly. No referral needed unless required by your insurance company

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