

**INFORMED CONSENT FOR EYEBROW LIFTING**

**WHAT CAN CAUSE THE NEED FOR EYEBROW SURGERY?**

With age, the skin and muscles of the eyebrow can sag and droop. Excess skin, muscle, and fat can weigh down the upper lid and in some cases block your vision. This can lead to fatigue, eyestrain, skin irritation, and loss of peripheral vision. Excess skin, muscle, and fat also create what many feel is an unattractive, aged appearance, especially in eyebrows. Patients sometimes feel they look “tired” or “old”.

**WHAT IS EYEBROW LIFTING?**

Eyebrow lifting is a technique to raise or elevate the eyebrows. There are many techniques that are used to raise the eyebrows. The goal of all the eyebrow lifting surgeries is to raise the eyebrow position. Indirectly, it can lift some skin off the upper eyelid as well.

There are several techniques to raise the eyebrows. In some techniques skin above the eyebrow or scalp maybe removed. In others small incisions are made in the scalp and small implants are placed to lift the scalp to a higher position raising the eyebrows. In other techniques eyebrows are raised with internal stitches through a cut in the eyelid. Each technique varies in how long the surgery will take, how long it lasts, risks and benefits. The technique you choose is based on which is the best option for you after your discussion with Dr Thiagarajah in consultation.

**HOW WILL EYELID SURGERY AFFECT MY VISION OR APPEARANCE?**

The results of eyebrow lifting depend upon each patient’s symptoms, unique anatomy, appearance goals, and ability to adapt to changes. Eyebrow lifting raises skin from the upper eyelids and raises the eyebrows themselves. By elevating the eyebrow eyebrow lifting may allow more light in and improve your peripheral vision. Eyebrow lifting does not improve blurred vision caused by problems inside the eye, or by visual loss caused by neurological disease behind the eye.

Because excess skin, muscle, and fat are consequences of aging, most patients feel that eyebrow lifting improves their appearance and makes them feel more youthful. Some patients, however, have unrealistic expectations about how changes in appearance will impact their lives. Others may have difficulty adjusting to changes to their appearance. Carefully evaluate your goals and your ability to deal with changes to your appearance before agreeing to this surgery.

**WHAT ARE THE MAJOR RISKS?**

Risks of eyebrow lifting include but are not limited to: bleeding, infection, an asymmetric or unbalanced appearance, scarring, difficulty closing the eyes (which may cause damage to the underlying corneal surface), inability to raise the eyebrows, double vision, tearing or dry eye problems, inability to wear contact lenses, numbness and/or tingling near the eye or on the face, and, in rare cases, loss of vision. If an implant is used to raise the eyebrow numbness around the implant, infection of the implant, the ability to feel the implant or pain around the implant are possible. The implant may need to be removed. You may need additional treatment or surgery to treat these complications; the cost of the additional treatment or surgery is NOT included in the fee for this surgery. Due to individual differences in anatomy, response to surgery, and wound healing, no guarantees can be made as to your final result. For some patients, changes in appearance may lead to anger, anxiety, depression, or other emotional reactions.

**WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES?**

You may be willing to live with the symptoms and appearance of extra skin, muscle, and fat around your eyes and low eyebrows and decide not to have surgery on your eyebrows at this time. In some cases the the eyebrows can be lifted with botox and fillers temporarily.

**WHAT TYPE OF ANESTHESIA IS USED? WHAT ARE THE MAJOR RISKS?**

Most eyebrow lifting procedures are done with “local” anesthesia, that is, injections around the eye to numb the area. You may also receive sedation from a needle placed into a vein in your arm or pills taken before surgery. In some cases general anesthesia is used especially in cases of endoscopic eyebrow lifting. Risks of anesthesia include but are not limited to damage to the eye and surrounding tissue and structures, loss of vision, breathing problems, and, in extremely rare circumstances, stroke or death.

**PATIENT’S ACCEPTANCE OF RISKS**

I have read the above information and have discussed it with my physician. I understand that it is impossible for the physician to inform me of every possible complication that may occur. My physician has told me that results cannot be guaranteed, that adjustments and more surgery may be necessary, and that there are additional costs associated with more treatment. By signing below, I agree that my physician has answered all of my questions, that I understand and accept the risks, benefits, and alternatives of blepharoplasty, and the costs associated with this surgery and future treatment, and that I feel I will be able to accept changes in my appearance .

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Patient (or person authorized to sign for patient) Date