



Brow/Forehead Lift

Aesthetic Surgery Ireland

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Clinic Ethos

Aesthetic Surgery Ireland is committed to providing patients with the greatest opportunity for achieving optimum clinical outcomes and receiving comprehensive and continuous care through the application of Art, Science and Integrity

Art

Performing the art of cosmetic surgery revolves around a surgeon's skills and aesthetic finesse, combined with a feeling for form and harmony. Training and knowledge of both reconstructive and cosmetic plastic surgery is an essential foundation for developing effective aesthetic surgical skills.

Science

The science of cosmetic surgery involves a comprehensive knowledge of surgical techniques and medical devices, and a clear understanding of what can be achieved for each patient. Only a Consultant Plastic Surgeon is equipped with this extensive knowledge of surgical and non-surgical techniques for cosmetic surgery.

Integrity

At the centre of a surgeon-patient relationship is a commitment by Aesthetic Surgery Ireland to treat each patient with the utmost integrity.

At the heart of our integrity are the following core principles:

1. Consultant Plastic Surgeons are on the Specialist Register of Plastic Surgery of the Irish Medical Council and reside in Ireland
2. Patients are treated with honesty, empathy and transparency at all times
3. Patients are offered comprehensive and balanced procedure information
4. Patients are afforded freedom of choice without undue influence
5. Clinically proven devices and equipment are used to support aesthetic outcomes
6. Comprehensive and continuous care is provided by Consultant Plastic Surgeons and appropriately qualified, highly experienced Nurses
7. Patient privacy and confidentiality is respected at all times
8. Clinical outcomes and patient care are of paramount importance
9. All surgical procedures are performed only in major Dublin hospitals.

Cosmetic surgery can offer powerful benefits to patients by improving their aesthetic appearance and increasing their self esteem. In order to optimise their individual outcomes, patients have a right to expect the highest ethical and clinical standards.

A guide to choosing the right surgeon

When considering plastic surgery in Ireland, a good choice is a member of the Irish Association of Plastic Surgeons (IAPS).

Members of the Irish Association of Plastic Surgeons

- Are certified by The Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland
- Complete a combination of at least two years of general surgery with a minimum of six years of plastic surgery training.
- Operate only in accredited medical facilities.
- Adhere to a strict code of ethics.
- Fulfil continuing medical education requirements, including standards and innovations in patient safety.
- Are on the Specialist Register of Plastic Surgery of the Irish Medical Council.

Our Consultant Plastic Surgeons are fully trained in Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic plastic surgery. They are all listed on the Specialist Register of Plastic Surgeons of the Irish Medical Council, and in possession of a Certificate of Completion of Training. They are all members of the Irish Association of Plastic Surgeons, and most are members of the British Association of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons. It is also very important that you choose a Plastic Surgeon who is resident in Ireland and who can therefore provide comprehensive and continuous patient care, especially after your operation.

Brow/Forehead Lift

Overview

The brow or forehead lift is a rejuvenating surgical procedure aimed at restoring a more youthful appearance primarily to the forehead. This operation does not involve the eyelids or remainder of the face. Patients seeking brow lifts usually have sagging brows and forehead skin which can cause the patients' eyes to look tired and upper lids to look heavy. They also show deeper horizontal wrinkles in the forehead.

The brow-lift is primarily designed to restore a more youthful position of the brow giving it a beautiful arched look. The operation involves the tightening or partial removal of the select facial muscles responsible for the drop in brow position.

The brow is repositioned at a higher level which opens the eyes and reduces upper eyelid overcrowding. This has the effect of giving a more youthful, less tired appearance. The browlift is sometimes considered with upper eyelid blepharoplasty surgery.

It is advisable that you first discuss this procedure with your General Practitioner (GP), who may then refer you to the Consultant Plastic Surgeon of your choice. Sharing your expectations with your GP and surgeon is the best way to increase the possibility of achieving your desired outcomes.

What happens before the brow lift operation?

During your consultation with the Consultant Plastic Surgeon, you will be asked about your expectations for the brow lift surgery which will help your surgeon to determine whether they realistically can be achieved. Your surgeon will examine your forehead, taking measurements and photographs for your medical record.

You should come to the consultation prepared to discuss your medical history. This will include information about any medical conditions, drug allergies, medical treatments you have received, previous surgeries and medications that you currently take. It is important for you to provide complete information.

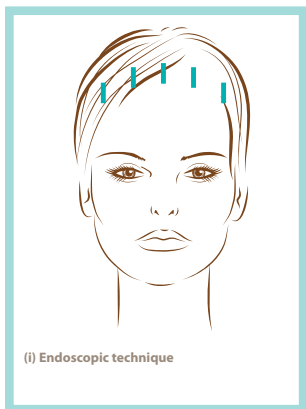
What happens during the procedure?

Although these procedures have been performed for many years, recent advancements in the field of plastic surgery have developed new ways of performing these procedures that lead to more longer-lasting results. Today, two principle methods exist to surgically lift the brow:

1. an endoscopic brow lift (more commonly performed)
2. an open "traditional" brow lift.

The surgical technique recommended by your surgeon will depend on the position of your brows, the degree of forehead skin excess, the depth of the forehead wrinkles and the position of your hairline.

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(i) Using the **endoscopic** technique, a number of short incisions are made in selected positions on the scalp. An endoscope (which is a very narrow telescope with a camera attached to one end) is inserted into one incision and displays images on a television monitor. The surgeon then uses specially designed instruments to access the underlying forehead muscles and underlying structures through the other incision sites. The muscles and tissues are altered and the brows are then repositioned and secured through a variety of permanent or dissolving anchoring mechanisms. The skin incisions are then closed. Although less scarring is associated with this technique, the lack of skin removal makes this technique less effective on patients with deep forehead wrinkles and saggy skin.

(ii) In the open **“traditional”** technique, an incision is made across the top of the scalp, beginning above the ears and hidden within the hair. For patients with altered hairlines due to hair loss, incisions can be made immediately in front of the hairline. In both cases, the incisions are designed to be as inconspicuous as possible when completely healed. The incision allows the Consultant Plastic Surgeon to partially remove or alter muscles causing unwanted frown lines, re-drape and remove excess forehead skin, smoothing the forehead, and elevate the brows into a more aesthetically appealing position.

What happens after the operation?

The typical recovery period is approximately 2-3 weeks. A compression bandage or garment is often recommended by the Consultant Plastic Surgeon for use during the initial recovery.

As with most surgical operations there will be some pain and swelling after the procedure. The pain can be controlled by taking medication as prescribed by the surgeon while the swelling usually subsides after 2-3 weeks. If pain or swelling persists after 4 weeks you should contact your surgeon.

What are some of the potential complications?

All surgical procedures by their very nature involve possible risks and potential complications. It is important to know that although complications from surgery are possible they are not common and it is for this reason that plastic surgeons continue to offer aesthetic surgical procedures.

Some possible complications associated with a brow lift are separated into both early and late complications:

Early: Bleeding, haematoma (blood collection), infection and temporary nerve damage.

Late: Permanent nerve damage, significant scars, loss of hair at scar sites, asymmetry between the sides of the brow and hairline elevation.

Please note: that with all procedures there is a possibility of patient dissatisfaction with the outcome.

Allergic reaction to anaesthetic

In very rare cases anaesthetics can cause allergic reactions. The best current estimate is that a life-threatening allergic reaction (also known as anaphylaxis) happens during one in 10,000 to one in 20,000 anaesthetics. Your anaesthetist will choose the drugs for your anaesthetic by taking into account many different factors, in particular, the type of operation, your physical condition, and whether you are allergic to anything. Most people make a full recovery from anaphylaxis. It isn't known how many anaphylactic reactions during anaesthesia lead to death or permanent disability. One review article suggests that one in 20 serious reactions can lead to death. This in effect implies that the chance of dying as a result of an anaphylactic reaction during anaesthesia is between one in 200,000 and one in 400,000 anaesthetic procedures.

For additional information regarding this procedure please contact your Consultant Plastic Surgeon.

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Additional patient rights

(a) Informed consent

Patients are entitled to receive, and Aesthetic Surgery Ireland shall at all times strive to provide, comprehensive, accurate and balanced information regarding all clinical treatments, surgical procedures and patient care. Informed consent from competent patients to progress with the procedure is a fundamental requirement for Aesthetic Surgery Ireland. Patients will be asked, without any undue influence, to confirm their agreement to proceed with the procedure by signing a Patient Consent Form.

(b) Patient photographs

As a normal part of the clinical process and to assist the surgeon with patient care, photographs of the patient are taken both before and after the respective procedure or treatment. To advance medical understanding occasionally Aesthetic Surgery Ireland may ask patients for their written consent to use their photographs in medical presentations and research. When used for this purpose the patient's identity shall be protected and kept confidential at all times. Only photographs of patients who have provided written consent expressly for this purpose, shall be used.

(c) Minimum age


The minimum age for cosmetic clinical treatments and surgical procedures is 18 years.

(d) Patient confidentiality

At all times Aesthetic Surgery Ireland shall respect and protect the patient confidentiality. Only sensitive personal information relevant to patient care shall be disclosed to clinicians involved in the respective patient's wellbeing.

(e) Cooling off period

All patients are entitled to 14 days, from the date of signing the consent form, to consider whether or not to proceed with the surgery or to seek additional information.



*Additional information
regarding each procedure can be found
on the Aesthetic Surgery Ireland website
www.aestheticsurgery.ie*

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