

Who performs the surgery?

Facial cosmetic surgery is performed by specialists trained in microsurgical techniques, including oculofacial plastic surgeons. Board certification, as well as advanced training such as the fellowships sponsored by the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS) are excellent indicators that you will be in experienced hands.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF OPHTHALMIC PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY



The American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS) was founded in 1969 to establish a qualified body of surgeons who have training and experience in this highly specialized field. The purpose of the Society is "to advance training, research and patient care in the fields of aesthetic, plastic and reconstructive surgery specializing in the face, orbits, eyelids and lacrimal system."

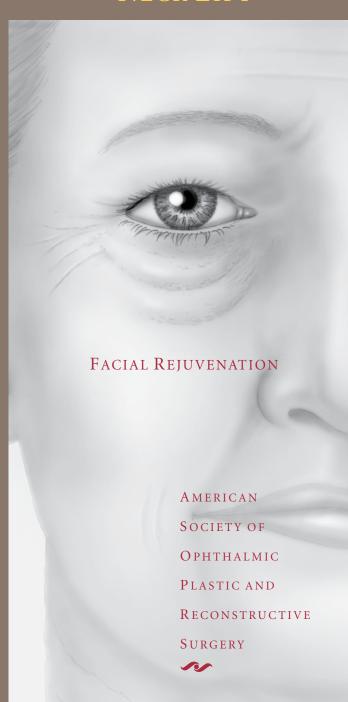
In the United States, there are only a few hundred ASOPRS members, surgeons who have devoted themselves to the specialty of oculofacial plastic surgery. It takes years of specialized training to safely perform procedures on the delicate tissues around the eyes. After medical school, ASOPRS surgeons complete four years of eye surgery training and become board certified ophthalmologists. Then, after two years of extensive oculofacial plastic surgery training, qualifying examinations and a scientific thesis, they are eligible to be considered by their peers for fellowship in ASOPRS.

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FACE AND NECK LIFT



ACE AND NECK LIFT

As time passes, our faces and necks age gradually but perceptibly. Sagging cheeks and jowls, "turkey neck", and wrinkles can cause us to look much older than we feel. These physical changes occur as a result of heredity, gravity, sun exposure, and nutrition, and affect all of the layers of tissue that affect our appearance.

Fortunately, dedicated surgeons have developed safe and reliable procedures that can subtly or dramatically improve the undesirable changes from aging. Patients can choose from many options to customize their experience and suit their needs.

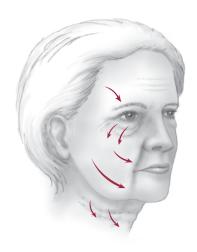
How can this surgery benefit me?

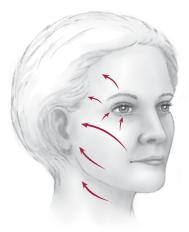
The purpose of a face and neck lift is to improve appearance by repositioning the soft tissues of the face and neck to a more youthful position. This type of surgery is usually considered when nonsurgical methods (such as facial fillers and Botox® injections) are no longer satisfactory. To achieve a consistent and natural look, most surgeons will lift the cheeks, jowls, and neck simultaneously, while working with the muscle, fat, and skin through incisions hidden around the ear and under the chin. The surgery is typically performed with twilight sedation or general anesthesia at a surgery center or hospital. Afterward, a patient should notice a pleasing improvement in cheekbone height, jaw line, jowls, and neck. The end result is a natural look of youth and vitality.

Related procedures

Additional procedures may be offered to address specific, individual issues. For example, when volume has been lost from the face, microfat grafting may be offered, taking fat from elsewhere in the body and moving it to the face to restore youthful plumpness. If sun damage is extensive, resurfacing of the superficial skin with lasers, chemical peels, or other technology may be suggested to improve skin texture, wrinkles, and color. Neck liposuction, facial implants, and limited face lifts to address isolated sagging in younger people are other options that may be recommended by your doctor.

Other procedures, including eyelid surgery and forehead lift, address adjacent areas of the face and may also be discussed with your doctor. Often, these procedures can be performed at the same time as face and neck lift.





After surgery

Most patients will have fairly obvious swelling and bruising for the first week or two, but pain is usually mild and easily controlled with medication. Ice packs are recommended for the first day or two, and if a drain is placed during surgery, it may be removed on the first day. Dressings may be worn for the first several days and skin sutures are removed after about one week. Other than feeling tired from the anesthetic, most people feel well rapidly. Walking and other light exercise can be performed almost immediately, but more strenuous exercise should be delayed until healing has progressed. For most people, it will be one to two weeks before they are ready to resume work and social engagements.

What are the risks and complications?

Face and neck lifting is very successful surgery with only infrequent complications. As with any surgery, bleeding, infection, and reactions to medications are possible. Asymmetry, persistence of numbness, and visibility of scars are unusual. Rarely, injury can occur to a nerve that controls facial movement. Specific risks should be discussed with your surgeon.

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