

You have been booked for surgery in the Corneo-plastic Eye Clinic at Queen Victoria Hospital. Your procedure relates to the face, eyelids, orbit or tear drainage systems that together are treated by specialist surgeons in the field of oculoplastic surgery.

At Queen Victoria Hospital, a team of trained doctors and nurses will undertake your treatment and care. Your surgery will be carried out by the consultant or by one of his team under appropriate supervision.

What is endoscopic brow lifting?

Endoscopic brow lifting is a technique for elevating the eyebrow and lower forehead using special instruments that are inserted through small incisions behind the hairline.

It does not remove excess upper eyelid skin or fat (that procedure is known as blepharoplasty) or change the position of the upper eyelid or make the eye more open (ptosis repair).

What are the benefits?

Improvement of outer or upper visual field, raising of eyebrows slightly higher to a more aesthetic position, improvement of hooding of the skin of the upper eyelids.

What are the risks?

All surgery carries risks and benefits. It is for you to weigh-up the risks and benefits before deciding to proceed.

The risks of this surgery include, but are not limited to:

- bruising
- bleeding
- infection
- over-correction
- under-correction
- brow asymmetry
- premature drop of brow or forehead descent
- high hairline
- alopecia (patchy loss of hair at incision sites)
- temporary or permanent numbness in the forehead or scalp area

Very rare:

- facial nerve weakness affecting brow movement or eyelid closure
- Bleeding within the eye resulting in sight loss

In addition to the risks that relate specifically to your procedure, there are also general risks associated with any surgical procedure, such as blood loss, blood clots, infection, cardiac arrest and airway problems. If your operation is to be carried out under general anaesthetic the anaesthetist will discuss this with you. Local anaesthetic may cause bruising or possible allergic responses.

Although we have discussed with you the purpose and likely outcome of the proposed procedure it is not possible for us to guarantee a successful outcome in every case. Those treating you will do their best to ensure success but unfortunately complications can and do occur. You should only agree to surgery if you fully understand the risks.

Forehead and Brow lift (Endoscopic approach)

Corneo-Plastic Unit

Are there any alternatives to surgery?

If you choose not to have this surgery, the position of your eyebrows and symptoms caused by this are unlikely to improve and may worsen with time. This will not have any permanent detrimental effect on your vision or general health. Other techniques of brow lifting are available and have different risks and benefits – please discuss this with your surgeon if you have any questions.

Further Information

For further information visit the British Oculoplastic Surgery Society website: www.bopss.org

For further information about the risks of anaesthetics please see the booklet 'You and your anaesthetic' or visit the Royal College of Anaesthetists' website: www.rcoa.ac.uk

Further Queries

Should you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us:

Eye Clinic Reception:
01342 414470 / 4166 / 4038
(appointments only / rearranging appointments)

Eye emergencies only: 01342 306782
between 09.00- 17.00

Ross Tilley Ward: 01342 414451 Out of hours

Please ask if you would like this leaflet in larger print or a different format.

Corneo-plastic Unit
Issue 5 – Ref: no. 0272
Approved by the Patient Information Group
Print January 2020 – Review January 2023

