

You have been booked for surgery in the Corneo-Plastic Unit at Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Your procedure relates to the face, eyelids, orbit or tear drainage system 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. The consultant ophthalmic and oculoplastic surgeon works closely with his Fellow in oculoplastic surgery. Occasionally, visiting specialist registrars from neighbouring hospitals join the team. Your surgery will be carried out either by a consultant, his Fellow or by a member of the team who is suitably experienced and qualified under appropriate supervision of a senior surgeon.

### 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. This leaflet describes the likely disadvantages or more serious problems that may occur. It

does not cover the more remote, unusual or unlikely complications. Please discuss these and any specific concerns you may have with your surgeon before agreeing to proceed with the operation. If you agree you will be asked to sign a form confirming that you understand and accept the risks associated with this procedure.

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

- bruising
- infection
- swelling
- tenderness at the outer corner of the eyelid (usually present and lasts for several weeks)
- over correction
- under correction
- asymmetry of eyelid position or appearance (both sides not the same)
- recurrence, i.e. the need for another operation in the future,
- inflammation around the sutures
- scarring
- loss of vision

In addition to the risks specific to the individual procedure, there are also

general risks, such as blood loss, blood clots, infection, cardiac arrest and airway problems, which are associated with any surgical procedure. 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.

### What are the benefits?

- correction of abnormal position of eyelid
- improved cosmetic appearance
- improved symptoms of excessive tearing, crusting of the eyelid, discharge and eye discomfort
- reduced chances of sight-

threatening corneal infection

## What are the alternatives to surgery?

If you choose not to have this surgery, the eyelid position and symptoms are unlikely to improve spontaneously. In some cases there is a possibility of damage to the cornea from exposure or from eyelashes that may result in sight-threatening corneal infections or scarring.

## Further information:

For further information visit the British Oculoplastic Surgery Society website: [www.bopss.co.uk](http://www.bopss.co.uk)

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](http://www.rcoa.ac.uk)

## Further queries:

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

### **Corneo-Plastic Unit (eye clinic)**

**Tel: 01342 306782**

**9am to 5pm**

For enquiries out of hours, weekends and bank holidays:

### **Ross Tilley Ward**

**Tel: 01342 414451 or switchboard**

**01342 414000**

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

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**Queen Victoria Hospital**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Entropion or  
Ectropion repair

**Corneo-Plastic Unit**

