



Plastic Surgery & Dermatology Associates (PSDA)

Dr. Lowe's Facts About Eyelid Surgery (Blepharoplasty)

Will my eyes look younger?

The vast majority of Blepharoplasties are simple skin removals procedures. That is – using the same incisions that are common to all techniques. The skin is timidly removed or treated with a laser above and below the eyelid margin, and a small amount of skin is removed without addressing deeper structures.

This limited technique is popular because it's simple and recovery is very fast. **There is only one problem.** Skin is like taffy and it stretches when pulled and you may not see significant improvement of the deep circles or grooves around the eyes. So what do you do? You can undergo multiple treatments with injectables to try to cancel irregularities.

There is a better way.

Under the skin there are supporting structures that support the fat and muscles around the eyelids. These structures hold things in place, but become displaced and loose with time. Unfortunately, these structures often contribute to the bagginess around the upper and lower eyelids. In order to improve these bags around the eyelid, structures must be cut and reposition to address the grooving. The bad news is that this is a more extensive procedure so you swell longer and have more bruising. Instead of looking better than you started out at two weeks, it will take four to six weeks. You'll feel OK at the end of two weeks, but you won't fool anyone for four to six weeks post-op.

Unfortunately, advanced eyelid surgery is like everything else in life. If you want more, you have to put more into it – meaning, you have to be patient in the postoperative period. Sometimes these procedures will require a tightening of the lower eyelid to avoid pulling down with healing. All patients will be required to perform an aggressive regimen of eyelid massage and eye-drops.

How do I avoid looking “operated” on?

Getting through your operation safely relies on medical science; the way you look is pure art. Eyelid surgery performed by different surgeons can be very different. The difference is not merely the price and service, but the approach and artistic skill of your surgeon. The artistic goal is not to remove every line from around your eyes, but to rejuvenate the region in a natural way. Many lines are caused by animation muscles, and to remove all the lines would mean releasing the attachments of all the muscles of expression. Although some expression will be lost with aggressive eyelid surgery, it will return to normal expression as the structures fully heal.

Dr. Lowe's goal is to make each patient look good without looking like a different person. He believes that facial aging begins with the eyes, and he attempts to improve the regions so patients do not appear tired or mad. His approach is individualized base on the patient's unique features, concerns, and expectations.