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BLEPHAROPLASTY - EYELID SURGERY

This is one of the most frequently practised plastic or cosmetic surgical operations, whether on women or men.

Aging affects the region of the eyes and lids in the following ways:

1. Drooping of the eyebrow
2. Heaviness of the skin and fatty pads of the eyelids
3. Looseness of the eye socket in general
4. Fatty tags around the eyes
5. Tired and "old-looking" skin.

It is vital to assess the individual situation, for treatment depends on a precise diagnosis.

The simplest cosmetic treatment is prescription of "anti-aging" creams with vitamin A..

Other treatment includes:

Trichloroacetic acid "peeling".

Laser abrasion

Correction of excess skin and fat of the upper eyelid, done by a spindle-shaped excision in the upper lid fold, leaving only an inconspicuous scar hidden in the fold.

Tightening the lower eyelid by means of an incision at the level of the eyelashes, that also allows a correction of lower lid fatty tags and any associated wrinkles. Sometimes it is even possible to remove these tags through the conjunctiva, with no external scar at all.

Correction of eyebrow droop by a minor forehead lift.

Sometimes, the surgeon might suggest a tightening of the whole of the tissues around the eyes, including the ligaments and muscles. If there is an overall unsatisfactory appearance of the eyelids and eyes, such as a "sad" expression, wrongly slanting eyes, or too much exposure of the whites of the eyes, even various degrees of full facelift can be performed. In many cases, the rejuvenating advantages of facelift can be obtained at the same time as any eyelid operation.

Most of these operations are purely for cosmetic purposes, but in certain cases of drooping eyelids that interfere with vision a real medical reason exists for the operation.

All the above must be discussed frankly and openly before any choice of technique or operation, and financial implications must be made clear.

Eyelid surgery is common and complications are relatively rare when performed by an experienced specialist. Even so, minor follow-up operations can be performed if needed.

This type of surgery really distinguishes those surgeons that have a good sense of the aesthetic, as well as technical skill.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G.F. Maillard', written in a cursive style.

Dr G.-F.Maillard, Privat-Dozent