Denver Eyelid Specialists
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Informed Consent for Wedge resection surgery

What can cause the need for wedge resection surgery?

There are several reasons Dr Thiagarajah may need to do a wedge resection of the eyelid. This could be for eyelashes that are misdirected against the eye, a potential eyelid lesion that needs to be biopsied to rule out a cancer or removal of an eyelid edge scar.

What is an wedge resection surgery?

When Dr Thiagarajah performs a wedge resection by removing a portion of the eyelid and sutures the two edges of the cut part of the eyelid together. The procedure is usually an outpatient procedure that takes 30 minutes.

How will wedge resection surgery affect my vision or appearance?

A wedge resection should not cause vision loss. That being said anytime one operates around the eye there is a remote risk of vision loss or vision problems. The eyelid may appear tight after surgery. There will be a stitch where the wedge resection surgery occurred that will have to be removed.

What are the major risks?

Risks of Wedge resection surgery include risk of vision loss, double vision, bleeding, scarring, infection, need for more surgery. Occasionally new eyelash hairs may be redirected against the eye after surgery. The wound edge may not heal properly resulting in a notch. You may need additional treatment or surgery to treat these complications; the cost of the additional treatment or surgery is NOT included in the fee for this surgery. Due to individual differences in anatomy, response to surgery, and wound healing, no guarantees can be made as to your final result.

What are the alternatives?

If a patient has lashes turning against the eye, they may live with it. It may damage the eye surface over time. Sometimes the eyelashes can be burned or pulled out. If there is an eyelid growth it is possible to leave it there but one takes the risk of it being an eyelid cancer and spreading to the rest of the eyelid and eye socket. If one has a scar that would be corrected with the wedge resection, it is possible to live with the scar. There are no medications to treat these diseases of the eyelid as an alternative.

What type of anesthesia is used? what are the major risks?

Most wedge resection surgeries are done with “local” anesthesia, that is, injections around the eye to numb the area. You may also receive sedation from a needle placed into a vein in your arm or pills taken before surgery. Sometimes general anesthesia is used where the patient is completely asleep with a tube down the throat. Risks of anesthesia include but are not limited to damage to the eye and surrounding tissue and structures, loss of vision, breathing problems, and, in extremely rare circumstances, stroke or death.

Patient’s acceptance of risks

I have read the above information and have discussed it with my physician. I understand that it is impossible for the physician to inform me of every possible complication that may occur. My physician has told me that results cannot be guaranteed, that adjustments and more surgery may be necessary, and that there are additional costs associated with more treatment. By signing below, I agree that my physician has answered all of my questions, that I understand and accept the risks, benefits, and alternatives of wedge resection repair of eyelid, and the costs associated with this surgery and future treatment, and that I feel I will be able to accept changes in my appearance .

Patient (or person authorized to sign for patient)

Date