Denver Eyelid Specialists
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Informed Consent for Entropion surgery

What can cause the need for entropion surgery?

Over time an eyelid can rotate towards eyeball. This can be due to gravity, scarring, chemical burn or a number of reasons. The eye can become irritated from eyelashes and even tear constantly because the eye's surface is being constantly irritated and damaged.

What is an entropion surgery?

When Dr Thiagarajah performs an entropion surgery he tightens the eyelid to pull the eyelid back into position. This is with stitches on the inside of the eyelid along with the side corner to tighten the eyelid muscle in the lower eyelid that has relaxed with time The procedure is usually an outpatient procedure that takes 30 minutes. Sometimes he has to add tissue from the lip or grafts to help rotate the eyelid away from the eye and back into position.

How will entropion surgery affect my vision or appearance?

An entropion 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 small incision in the side corner of the eyelid. If stitches are placed on the outside of the eyelid they will be temporarily visible.

What are the major risks?

Risks of Entropion surgery include risk of vision loss, stroke, bleeding, facial nerve damage, scarring, infection. The surgery may not work in that the eyelid may relax after the surgery. 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?

It is possible to do nothing and live with the eyelid turning in.This may cause a permanent vision loss from eyelashes that rub agains the eyeball itself. There are no medications to treat entropion of the eyelid. It is possible to constantly lubricate the eye with lubricating drops or ointment instead of surgery. For certain types of entropion, botox medication can be injected into the eyelid every three months to relax the eyelid back into position. The injections are given every three months indefinitely.

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

Most Entropion 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 Entropion 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