



## Lam Facial Plastics Surgery Center

### Discharge Instructions – Lower Blepharoplasty with Facial Fat Transfer & CO2 Laser

Please keep in mind following your procedure it will take time to heal. Try not to be overly critical of your body and allow it time to heal. It is important to remember that it may take 2-3 weeks until you have healed to the point it is not noticeable so please keep this in mind when scheduling if you have any upcoming social or professional engagements that you must attend. The following are normal during your recovery period:

- Bruising, swelling and mild discomfort in both the face and the part of the body the fat was removed from for transfer. These symptoms may increase and peak around day 3 after surgery. This will gradually resolve over a period of several days to weeks.
- Pressure and tightness in your face, jaw and chin area.
- One side of the face may be more swollen or lumpy than the other side. Swelling resolves unevenly and you may notice this for several weeks after surgery but it will resolve over time.
- It may be difficult to smile and your lips may appear small due to the fact that your face is swollen.
- Lumps may be present around your eyes and face.
- It is possible to notice ongoing changes for up to a year after surgery. This does not mean that the fat is going away. Follow-up and discuss with Dr. Lam if there is a concern with the changes.
- You should avoid any significant weight gain or loss of greater than 20 pounds or more as this may result in your face appearing larger than expected.
- Your eyes will feel scratchy and uncomfortable for the first 48 hours. You may notice redness, puffiness and swelling for up to 7 days, which is normal. There may also have some mild itching as they heal. Use the eye drops as directed below to help minimize this.

Please follow these instructions carefully to reduce swelling and bruising as well as improve your overall outcome:

- Keep your head elevated for 2 days following your surgery. You may sleep with at least two pillows under your head (use a dark colored towel to protect your pillow) or you may sleep in a recliner (a travel pillow will help support your neck if you choose this method). Please use whichever method is most comfortable to you.
- Apply ice to the surgical site for the first 2-3 days after your procedure. Use in 20 minute increments, meaning on for 20 minutes and then off for at least 20 minutes while you are awake. Leaving on long than 20 minutes at a time could injure your skin/tissues. Always use a barrier such as gauze or a clean wash cloth between the ice pack and your skin.
- Use Artificial Tears as often as needed to promote comfort. Always use the Artificial Tears **before** the Tobradex to avoid washing the Tobradex out of the eyes. **Wait 10 minutes after** using the Artificial Tears to use Tobradex.
- Use Tobradex Ophthalmic Drops (antibiotic with steroid drops) as follows: 3 drops to each eye 3 times a day for one week. Use until drops are gone.
- You may shower 24 hours after surgery and wash your face. Do not allow the shower spray to make direct contact with your face but rather allow the water to spray above and run over the surgical area. Use a mild cleanser such as Cetaphil.

- Remove dressing from your donor/harvest sites (abdomen or thighs) 24 hours after surgery and clean with antibacterial soap and water. You may use Band-Aids until healed if desired. Always keep dressing clean and dry.
- No swimming for 3 months to avoid infection.
- You may resume wearing contacts 2 weeks after surgery .
- Avoid sun exposure to the area of laser treatment around eyes for 1 week to allow the skin time to heal.
- Apply Aquaphor to lasered area as often as needed to keep moist for 48 hours. After 48 hours you may switch to over the counter Cetaphil or you may purchase Oxygenetix moisturizer.
- Do not apply makeup/foundation to the lasered area for 1 week unless you have purchased Oxygenetix foundation.
- Avoid strenuous activity for 3-4 days. You may slowly begin increasing exercise activity, starting with walking, the day after your surgery. Listen to your body and increase activity as tolerated.
- Allow the skin to flake away on its own. Do not peel or pick at the skin. Continue to cleanse and apply moisturizer until healed.
- **Do not** take Aspirin, Advil, Aleve or other blood thinning products for one week after your procedure to reduce bleeding and bruising.
- **Do not** drink alcohol for one week after your procedure as this can also cause bleeding.
- Return for your one week follow up appointment as scheduled for suture removal.
- **If you notice yellow/green drainage, pus filled bumps, fever over 100.4, severe pain or bleeding that isn't controlled with 5 minutes of light pressure, please notify our office immediately.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Dr. Lam at:

Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm

Office: 972-312-8188

After Hours

Answering Service: 972-280-7461

Patient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date & Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date & Time: \_\_\_\_\_