BALDWIN PLASTIC SURGERY

2403 Loy Drive Suite 202, Lafayette, IN 47909

765.838.2119

Blepharoplasty

**Before Surgery**

* Pain medication will be prescribed for use after surgery. It is important that you pick up your medication prior to the day of your surgery. You should not, however, start taking them until after your procedure.
* The pain medication most commonly prescribe is Lortab, Vicodin, and Hydrocodone. If you have had an allergic reaction or trouble with any of these pain medications in the past, please let us know.
* **DO NOT EAT OR DRINK anything for at least 8 hours before surgery. This is very important. Doing so could result in your surgery being cancelled.**

**Day of Surgery**

* Arrive at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Surgical Center at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* You will need to have a responsible adult take you home from the surgery center. You will not be able to drive yourself home. We do not allow you to use public transportation or a taxi service following surgery.
* Please wear loose fitting, front buttoning clothing for ease in re-dressing after surgery.

**After Surgery**

* Expect considerable swelling and bruising of the eyelids, which usually is most severe by the second day after surgery. Most of the swelling and bruising will be gone by 2-3 weeks after surgery. Keeping your head elevated, on 2 to 3 pillows or by sitting/sleeping in a recliner, will help limit how much swelling will occur.
* Keeping something cold on the eyes for the first 24 hours is also very helpful in minimizing swelling. This can be done with wash cloths from an ice bath, frozen gel masks, or frozen vegetables in a zip lock bag, changing them every 30 minutes or so as they become lukewarm. Continuing these cold compresses for 48 hours, if possible, is even better.
* Along the eyelid suture lines, antibiotic ointment will need to be applied twice a day. Apply enough to keep them lightly lubricated.
* Eyelid sutures will be removed 5-7 days after surgery.
* You may resume the wearing contacts 1 week after surgery when your sutures have been removed.
* The use of eye makeup (eyeliner, eye shadow) should not be considered for 2 weeks after surgery. Cover-up or concealer may be used on bruised areas after sutures have been removed.
* Exercise and strenuous physical activities should be avoided for 2 weeks after surgery, along with bending over (head below one’s waist).
* Be patient about the bruising that is around the eyes. It usually takes several weeks to go away completely….but it will all go away. The bruising may descend onto the cheeks and fall into the neck.
* It is extremely important to avoid any type of nicotine products for the first 4 weeks after surgery. Nicotine reduces the blood flow to the skin and may impair or slow down healing. This includes cigarettes and cigars as well as nicotine gum and patches.
* You may drive when you are reasonably comfortable and are off pain medication. The issue is simply one of safety, both to you and others while operating a car. Usually, this is within 2 weeks, but should be discussed with Dr. Baldwin.

Dr. Baldwin and his fully experienced plastic surgery staff are devoted to providing top quality care for their plastic surgery patients. Utilizing safe and proven techniques and technologies, Dr. Baldwin is able to help his patients achieve pleasing results. The safety, comfort and satisfaction of his patients are Dr. Baldwin’s primary concerns and he makes every effort to try to ensure that their experiences are positive ones.

Dr. James D. (Sam) Baldwin

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