

What is a RevealSM Face Lift?

RevealSM Face Lift, also known as rhytidectomy, is a surgical procedure that smoothes loose, sagging skin on the face and neck, tightens underlying tissues and muscles, and removes excess fat. RevealSM Face Lift surgery can dramatically refresh and invigorate the lower two-thirds of the face. By removing excess fat and reshaping loose muscles and facial tissue, sagging in the cheeks and around the jaw is significantly reduced.

Who is a good candidate for RevealSM Face Lift surgery?

People in generally good health who wish to remove signs of aging — including sagging in the face and neck, facial wrinkles and lines — can benefit from RevealSM Face Lift surgery. The best candidates have facial skin that has started to sag but whose skin retains some elasticity. Additionally, a good candidate will have strong, well-defined bone structure.

In determining whether a face lift is right for you, age is not necessarily the most important factor. Most RevealSM Face Lift candidates are between 40 and 70 years old. However, the procedure can effectively enhance the appearance of people over 70, and some opt for the procedure in their 20s and 30s, often as a means of correcting hereditary conditions. In general, the condition of your skin and the features you would like to improve are more important considerations than your age.

What can I expect?

RevealSM Face Lift surgery is performed under general anesthesia and is completed in approximately 4 hours, though surgical times may vary based on the individual's unique needs (facility and anesthesia fees will apply).

There are many different types of face lift procedures, each one offering various benefits for people with different cosmetic goals and needs. The range of options allows you to accomplish different objectives, which may have to do with aesthetics, cost, convenience, or a combination of all three. Common procedures include the lower face lift, the mid face lift, the mini “weekend” face lift, and the endoscopic face lift. Your surgeon will guide you in deciding which procedure is appropriate for your situation.

All RevealSM Face Lift surgeries begin by separating the skin from the underlying layers of muscle and fat. After removing excess fat, facial muscles and membranes are tightened. The skin is then pulled back, and extra skin is removed. Incisions are carefully hidden around the hairline and inside the ear. Drains are placed behind the ears to remove the fluid that accumulates post-surgery.

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How long will RevealSM Face Lift results last?

Since the aging process is ongoing, no face lift produces permanent results. Nevertheless, a RevealSM Face Lift can leave the face looking refreshed for 10 years or longer. The longevity of your RevealSM Face Lift will depend on many factors, including the condition of your skin, whether you smoke or drink, and how old you are when you undergo surgery. However, when natural signs of aging reappear, you will most likely continue to look younger than your actual age.

Will it be obvious that I've had a face lift?

During your RevealSM Face Lift, everything possible will be done to make signs of the procedure invisible. The placement of incisions is selected strategically, so that any scars forming after surgery are likely to be hidden by hair or obscured by natural creases in the face. To limit scarring, incisions are made whenever possible in areas that tend to heal well, and extremely small sutures are used when repositioning skin. Nevertheless, as with all surgery, some scarring is a possibility.

How long is the recovery period?

Most people are able to return to work 14 days after their surgery, though swelling and bruising may take up to 4 weeks to disappear. Most patients experience some discomfort during the recovery time. These effects are usually controlled with cold compresses, while additional pain can be minimized with prescription pain medication.

Exercise should be avoided for at least 4 weeks following surgery.

What are the risks associated with RevealSM Face Lift?

RevealSM Face Lift complications may include issues that are common potential problems for all surgery: bleeding, infection, hematoma, adverse reactions to anesthesia and scarring. Though rare, skin and nerve damage are also risks to consider.

What type of scarring should I expect?

RevealSM Face Lift scarring is well-hidden, but starts above the ears and extends around the ears, into the hairline and under the chin.