

# GUELPH | FACIAL PLASTICS

## - Browlift/Forehead Reduction Post-Operative Discharge Instructions -

### **WOUND CARE**

- An incision was made at the top of your forehead, along your hairline
- Browlift incisions may be placed on the scalp, hidden by your hair, these sutures will dissolve but require the same care
- Clean any scabbing off of the suture lines twice a day with a Q-tip soaked in peroxide
- After cleaning the incisions apply an occlusive OINTMENT (Vaseline, Aquaphor, Polysporin, coconut oil, etc.)
- Clean your incisions morning and night, more if needed
- Non-dissolving stitches will be removed at your 1-week appointment

### **FOR YOUR COMFORT**

- Apply ice to your scalp and upper face for 20 minutes of every hour while awake for the next 3 days, this will limit your discomfort, bruising, and swelling
- Sleeping with your head elevated will also help to limit bruising and swelling
- Avoid prescription pain medication if tolerable, switching to Tylenol or Advil will help to prevent nausea
- If you have any questions about healing or wound care please contact Nurse Jocelyn

### **SHOWERING**

- You may shower as soon as you feel comfortable to do so
- Avoid soaking your incision in water until 3 days following surgery
- Do not scrub your incision line. Avoid shampoo and conditioner directly on your incision line. Rinsing with warm water is permitted

### **ACTIVITY & DRIVING**

- Medications you were given during your surgery will be acting in your body for 24-48 hours. Do not drive, operate machinery, drink alcohol or make important decisions in the 2 days following surgery. Someone must stay with you overnight
- You may resume most activities of daily living the day after your surgery. AVOID STRAINING, HEAVY LIFTING AND MANUAL LABOUR for 14 days after surgery
- You may return to work as early as 7 days after surgery if you feel up to it
- Walks are permitted while healing

### **NUTRITION**

- Light meals are suggested the day of your surgery when you return home
- You may resume a normal diet as soon as you feel ready

### **AFTER SURGERY**

- It is normal for the brow to feel tight, this feeling will resolve with time
- Expect bruises to form under the eyes up to 4 days after surgery
- Some bleeding is expected from the incision. Keep your head elevated; apply ice packs and avoid strenuous activity

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- A brisk swelling in your eyelids that grows larger by the minute and is tense, painful and firm is NOT normal and may represent bleeding under the skin. Call Dr. Brace's office during office hours or Dr. Brace after hours and head to the Emergency Room.
- Nausea is common after a general anesthetic. Use Gravol as needed

## **MEDICATIONS**

- Dr. Brace will have prescribed your post-operative medications prior to surgery
- Take your antibiotic as directed until the prescription is finished
- Use Tylenol (acetaminophen) 650mg every 4 hours as baseline pain control AND/OR Advil (ibuprofen) 400mg every 6 hours. YOU MAY USE BOTH AT THE SAME TIME
- To minimize nausea and vomiting, use your prescribed pain medicine only if Tylenol/Advil is not sufficient to treat your pain
- Do not use Aspirin for 2 weeks after surgery

**PLEASE NOTE: Call Dr. Brace's office during office hours, or go to the Emergency Room after hours and call Dr. Braces direct phone, if you have any of the following or any concern of an urgent nature:**

- You have a mass of swelling that is growing rapidly, this could indicate bleeding under the skin
- You have heavy bleeding that does not stop
- You develop a progressive headache WITH fever, vomiting and neck stiffness
- You have difficulty breathing or chest pain
- You have an ongoing fever above 38.5C (101.3F)
- You have nausea and vomiting lasting more than 2 days

Please contact Dr. Braces office if you are hospitalized within 10 days of your surgery. In that circumstance, we will notify the College of Physicians and update them on your status