

# OCULOPLASTY

Oculoplasty is a specialized branch of Ophthalmology, which focuses on abnormalities of the structures around the eye. Oculoplastic procedures refer to a large variety of surgical procedures that deal with the orbit (eye socket), eyelids, tear ducts, extra ocular structures, other structures around the eye and the face. These procedures include repair of droopy eyelids, repair of tear duct obstructions, orbital fracture repairs, removal of tumors in and around the eyes.

Oculoplastic procedures frequently have both functional and aesthetic purposes. For example, Blepharoplasty, a procedure for excessive and droopy eyelid skin, may improve peripheral vision as well as facial beauty and rejuvenation. It aims at improving function, comfort and appearance.

## Conditions for Oculoplastic Referral

People of any age group can have problems with the areas around the eyes. Some conditions can be present in children, as birth defects, or appear in early childhood. These conditions in children need to be addressed early as they may hamper visual development, and lead to lazy eye (amblyopia).

Injuries, infections or tumours can affect any age group, and need early attention and management. In the elderly weakness of eye and face muscles, lead to watering, drooping of the lids or skin folds that hamper normal function. There are several conditions for which you might be referred to an Oculoplastic surgeon.

- Droopy eyelids or eyebrows (Ptosis)
- Blepharoplasty (Eyelift)
- Eyelids turning in or out (Entropion / Ectropion)
- Excessive watering due to tear duct or tear sac problems
- Frequent prescription changes in glasses and contact lenses
- Growths or Tumors (Cancer of Eye)
- Excessive blinking or uncontrollable eye closure
- Twitches
- Excessive wrinkles / skin folds around eyes (Cosmesis)
- Thyroid imbalance
- Paralysis affecting the face
- Anophthalmia - Loss of eye due to injury or infection wherein artificial eye fitting is needed, to improve appearance