

CONSENT FOR SURGERY

PROMINENT EAR CORRECTION (Pinnaplasty)

This process involves the reshaping of the ears by making small incisions at the back of the ear. The cartilage (which makes up the framework of the ear) is reshaped to create a more natural look. After closing the incision, a head bandage is placed on the area for several days. We recommend the use of a head 'sweat band' at night-time for six weeks following your operation.

Any type of surgical procedure is at risk of complications and these should be considered prior to surgery.

It is important that you read this information carefully and completely. **Please initial each page**, indicating that you have read the page and sign the consent for surgery as proposed by your surgeon.

1. Dissatisfaction with the aesthetic result:

Although every attempt is made to produce a result, which pleases the patient, this is not always possible. Some patients are dissatisfied with the results of cosmetic surgery and may not feel enough has been achieved or alternatively the appearance is not what they desire.

Perfect symmetry is not achievable there will be differences from side to side in both the healing process and the end result.

2. Scarring:

An incision will be made behind each ear. These are hidden in natural creases. These usually heal to a fine line of a scar, which is not readily noticeable. Infection or unsatisfactory healing may leave a noticeable scar. Occasionally abnormal scarring can occur producing a thickened scar (keloids and hypertrophic scars).

3. Bruising:

Some bruising always occurs around the ears. This settles over a six week period.

4. Swelling:

While a lot of swelling settles quickly over a 2 week period, the earlobe can remain swollen for

longer. It will take between two and six months for healing to be completed and for the best cosmetic result to occur.

5. Bleeding:

Some minor bleeding always occurs over the first 48 hours following surgery. A blood stained discharge may be present for up to 2 weeks.

6. Tenderness:

Some discomfort always occurs immediately following surgery. This is normally controlled with simple painkiller medication. Tenderness may persist behind the ear for some weeks.

7. Numbness:

Numb patches around the ears are common immediately following surgery. These mostly settle with time; although rarely can be permanent.

8. External skin colour changes and infection:

The blood supply to the skin may be altered as a result of the surgery. In some people the ear skin may change colour, particularly with temperature change. This alteration in skin colour usually fades with time, but on occasion it may persist.

Surgical wounds are at risk of infections. A wound that is becoming redder and more painful may indicate infection. Medical advice should be sought to avoid wound breakdown and skin loss.

9. Revision surgery:

In most cases a satisfactory result is produced and revision surgery is not required. In some patients abnormalities, which are often minor, may persist after the initial operation and revision surgery is required to produce a satisfactory cosmetic or functional result. Revision surgery is only offered if your surgeon thinks an improvement is possible and your expectations are achievable.

10. Anaesthesia:

The procedure is normally performed under local anaesthesia (in other words you will be awake). If you chose a General Anaesthetic (asleep) your anaesthetic will be performed by a Consultant Anaesthetist.

I have had the opportunity to discuss these complications and any questions with my surgeon.

Signed (patient) Date

Signed Mr J J Downie FRCS Consultant Surgeon

