



UNC

DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY/  
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY  
FACIAL PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

## **Facial Reconstructive Surgery**

### **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Reconstructive surgery of the face is intended to restore “normalcy” to the facial appearance
- Realistic expectations are the key to success
- Safety is paramount
- Natural results are the goal of any purely cosmetic surgery or procedure

### **PROBLEM:**

- Any abnormality of the face or neck, whether from birth defect or trauma

### **GOALS:**

- Restore normal appearance

### **LIMITATIONS:**

- Cannot recreate undamaged skin
- May not completely alter developmental asymmetries
- Cannot prevent changes that occur with development
- Cannot solve personal problems of patients or parents
- GOALS MAY ONLY BE PARTIALLY MET

### **HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?:**

- Aging and development will continue

### **SURGICAL TECHNIQUE / ANESTHESIA/ FACILITY:**

- General anesthesia is necessary for most major deformities, although local anesthesia may be used in certain cases

### **POST-PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Ice packs are generally applied to the area of surgery immediately after procedure
- Continue ice packs until sleep on day of procedure
- Continue ice packs intermittently as much as possible on day 2
- Specific written wound care instructions will be given by the nurse before you leave on the day of your procedure