



UNC

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

## **Cheek Implant**

### **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Cosmetic Surgery is surgery you *do not need* – (totally/purely elective surgery)
- Long or repeated consultations
- Realistic Expectations are the Key to Success
- Safety
- Natural results

### **PROBLEM:**

- Facial/cheek/orbital hollowing deformities unique to individual
- Imbalance with other facial features (especially chin, eyes and lips)

### **GOALS:**

- Reshape the structure (using the implants) to improve the aesthetic proportions especially of the mid and upper face
- Anticipate the inevitable redraping of the skin and subcutaneous tissues
- Avoid functional compromise (i.e.-sensory and motor nerve compromise)

### **LIMITATIONS:**

- Cannot recreate young skin
- Cannot alter developmental asymmetries
- Cannot prevent continued aging
- Cannot solve personal problems
- GOALS MAY ONLY BE PARTIALLY MET

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

- Aging will continue
- Surgical changes will be permanent

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

- General Anesthesia is the preferred method
- Outpatient surgery (you go home the same day)
- Incisions are under the upper lip
- Dressing/Support Garments
- Return to normal activities (usually 7-10 days)

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

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