



UNC

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

Rhytidoplasty (Facelift)

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:

- Muscle and supportive tissues relax, skin loses its elasticity “sinking and sagging”, and a gradual diffuse loss of fat, muscle and bone beneath the skin
- Tethering points create deeper folds and creases
- Vector of relaxation is toward the chin

GOALS:

- Improve facial contours/vectors
- Improve the chin-neck angle
- Re-suspension of the skin & supporting tissues

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:

- Most facelifts are performed under local anesthesia with oral sedation
- Outpatient Operating Suite vs. Hospital
- Incisions are well-hidden and will be discussed in detail
- Dressings/Drains/ Support Garments

POST-PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS:

- Specific written wound care instructions will be given by the nurse before you leave on the day of your procedure