

## **Forehead Reduction Surgery General Instructions**

### **Planning Before Your Trip:**

- If you live outside the immediate Los Angeles area, we can assist you in arranging accommodations. We can also help you arrange your postoperative care needs.
- You cannot be alone the first 24 hours after surgery. You must either have someone pick you up and stay with you for the first night, or you need to have us help you arrange for an aftercare facility or nurse.
- Make sure you start taking the vitamins we recommend (these are suggested amounts to take. A little more or less is not a problem):
  - Alpha Lipoic Acid 600 mg
  - Vitamin C 1000 mg
  - Zinc 50 mg
  - Biotin 3000 U
- Do NOT take any aspirin, ibuprofen, NSAIDS, fish oil, or large doses of vitamin E for at least 1 week before surgery. You may start taking them after surgery.
- If you are under age 35 and otherwise healthy, no blood tests are needed. If you are over age 35 or have major health issues you will need to get blood tests done either with your doctor or by our office at least the day before surgery.
- Patients over age 45 need a complete history and physical as well as clearance for surgery from their physician.
- You can color your hair up to 2 weeks before surgery.

### **The Day Before Surgery:**

- Confirm the time of surgery with our office.
- Do not drink any alcohol and avoid too much salt.
- Do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before surgery.

### **The Morning of Surgery:**

- Shower and wash your hair with the rinse you were given. Let the rinse sit in the hair for 5 minutes before rinsing, then repeat the rinse again. Do not put any other products in your hair or on your face. You can either towel dry your hair, or come to the surgery center with it wet.
- Wear something comfortable that will not be tight around your head. A button up works best.
- If you wear contact lenses be sure to bring glasses or a case to take out your lenses before surgery.
- Bring your prescription medications with you.
- Please arrive on time to the surgery center.

**The Night After Surgery:**

- Your head will be wrapped in a dressing.
- Please start taking ibuprofen as soon as you are able after surgery.
- Start taking your antibiotics.
- Ice your eyes and the back of your neck.
- Keep your head elevated at least 30 degrees.
- Avoid eating too much salt.

**The Next Day:**

- Your dressing will be removed.
- You will be given antibiotic ointment to apply to the stitches. Please apply this to the stitches 3 times a day to keep the incision moist at all time until the stitches are removed.
- Continue to ice on and off today.
- That night you may shower and wash your hair.

**The Following Week:**

- Your stitches will be removed by Dr. Aharonov 6 days after surgery. If you are flying back home, you will have your stitches taken out 7 days after surgery.
- After the stitches are removed you can stop applying the antibiotic ointment.
- You may resume normal exercise and full activity 10 days after surgery.

**Two Weeks After Surgery:**

- Start scrubbing the scar with a facial scrub.
- If you are getting ingrown hair, purchase Tend Skin and apply a small amount with a cotton ball to the incision. This will reduce the incidence of ingrown hair.
- At the 2 week mark you are allowed to submerge your head under water.

**Three Weeks After:**

- You may resume coloring your hair again.