

INFORMED CONSENT FOR TEAR DUCT PROCEDURE

WHAT CAN CAUSE THE NEED FOR TEAR DUCT SURGERY?

Some patients can develop a tearing in one or both eyes. Sometimes the cause for tearing is an overproduction of tears or an inability to drain the tears through the tear duct secondary to partial or complete closure of punctum, canaliculus or nasolacrimal duct.

WHAT IS THE INDICATION OF TEAR DUCT SURGERY IN THE OFFICE?

The cause for tearing that would result in an in-office procedure would be a partial or complete closure of punctum or canaliculus. A complete closure of nasolacrimal duct should be addressed in the operating room.

HOW WILL TEAR DUCT SURGERY AFFECT MY VISION OR APPEARANCE?

The results of tear duct surgery depend upon each patient's symptoms, unique anatomy. It also depends on how the tissue heals. The punctum and canaliculus will be opened and a tube may be placed. The tube is sometimes visible upon close inspection. The eyelid will be swollen for 1-3 days. The vision may be blurry the day of the procedure, however there is usually not change in vision or glasses RX. Tear duct surgery will create a small scar on in the inside of the eyelid. Carefully evaluate your goals and your ability to deal with changes to your appearance before agreeing to this surgery.

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR RISKS?

Risks of tear duct surgery include but are not limited to: bleeding, infection, persistent tearing, scarring, double vision, dry eye problems, inability to wear contact lenses, numbness and/or tingling near the eye or on the face, and, in rare cases, loss of vision. You may need additional treatment or surgery to treat these complications; the cost of the additional treatment or surgery is NOT included in the fee for this surgery. Due to individual differences in anatomy, response to surgery, and wound healing, there are no guarantees.

WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES?

It is possible to do nothing and live with the tearing. Some patients choose to use eye drops and nasal sprays which improve their symptoms. Some patients may choose to perform this procedure in the OR.

WHAT TYPE OF ANESTHESIA IS USED? WHAT ARE THE MAJOR RISKS?

Most in office tear duct surgeries are done with "local" anesthesia, that is, injections around the eye to numb the area. Risks of anesthesia include but are not limited to damage to the eye and surrounding tissue and structures, loss of vision, breathing problems, and, in extremely rare circumstances, stroke or death.

PATIENT'S ACCEPTANCE OF RISKS

I have read the above information and have discussed it with my physician. I understand that it is impossible for the physician to inform me of every possible complication that may occur. My physician has told me that results cannot be guaranteed, that adjustments and more surgery may be necessary, and that there are additional costs associated with more treatment. By signing below, I agree that my physician has answered all of my questions, that I understand and accept the risks, benefits, and alternatives of eyelid lesion removal, and the costs associated with this surgery and future treatment.

Patient (or person authorized)

Signature

Date

Time

Yogita Kashyap, MD

