



PLASTIC &
RECONSTRUCTIVE
SURGEON

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INFORMATION LEAFLET OTOPLASTY

ADVANTAGES:

- Reshaping of the external ear.
- Creation of an anti-helical fold.
- Reduction of the concha if necessary.
- Pullback of lobule (lower part) of the ear.

DISADVANTAGES:

- A scar that will be hidden on the back of the ear.

RISKS AND POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS:

- Infection (in the face the risk is very small, but should it occur a second procedure and/or antibiotics may be needed).
- Hematoma (collection of blood that is extremely painful and will necessitate a drainage procedure in theatre). This will mean extra theatre cost.
- Hypertrophic scars or keloids (this is determined genetically and will need special treatment).
- Recurrence of the original deformity.

POST-OPERATIVE CARE:

- Do not remove the dressing.
- The suture line and surrounding skin may itch from time to time.
- Normal day-to-day activities may be resumed after 1 week of rest. No contact sport for at least 6 months.
- The absorbable suture knots on the outside of the skin need to be removed after 7 days. Please make an appointment.
- Normal washing may resume over the wound areas once the sutures have been removed.
- Please wear a soft "sweat band" over the ears at night during sleeping to avoid folding and bending of the ears.
- Do not apply tissue oil or Bio-oil on the scars, before the raw areas have healed completely (this may cause irritation and redness in the scars).
- Micropore bandage or steri-strips should be applied in a longitudinal direction over the scar lines after washing or showering in order to prevent stretching or widening of the scars. If the Micropore cause skin irritation, please stop applying it.
- The wound healing process takes 12 – 18 months, final scarring may only be judged after this time period.