



AUTHORISATION FOR OTOPLASTY

Patient's Name

INTRODUCTION:

- 1) I authorise Dr. Johan van Heerden and his assistant(s) to perform on me an operation known as an Otoplasty.
- 2) The nature and effects of this operation and the risks and complications have been explained and understood.
- 3) Among other points, the following has been made specifically clear:
 - a. The scars are permanent
 - b. Complications after Otoplasty are like those after any surgical procedure i.e. bleeding, infection, and wound breakdown may occur and may require additional procedure(s) for treatment
 - c. Swelling and bruising take a few weeks to disappear and several months are necessary for the tissue to assume their eventual shape. After 3 – 6 months a revision procedure may be necessary to address any concerns or unexpected sequelae.
 - d. Sensation to the skin surrounding the injury and suture line is usually altered and may be permanently decreased. (This is due to the initial injury and the subsequent surgery.)
 - e. I understand and accept the less common complications, including the remote risk of death or serious disability that exists with any surgical procedure.
 - f. I am aware that smoking during the 4 weeks pre- and 4 weeks post-operative periods may increase my risk of complications significantly.
 - g. I have informed the doctor of all medications I am currently taking, including prescriptions, over the counter remedies, herbal drugs, supplements, or any other substance. I have been advised whether I should avoid taking any or all these medications before or on the days of the procedure.
 - h. I have informed Dr. van Heerden of previous deep vein thrombosis and all the relevant risk factors for deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism that may be present. Prophylactic measures to prevent this will be utilised as indicated.
- 4) I authorise Dr. Johan van Heerden to perform any other procedure that he may deem desirable in attempting to improve the condition stated in paragraph 1 above or any unhealthy or unforeseen condition that may be encountered during the operation.
- 5) I consent to the administration of anaesthetics by a suitably qualified doctor.

- 6) The practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science. I therefore, understand that no guarantee or assurance can be given by Dr. Johan van Heerden as to the results that may be obtained. Even reputable practitioners cannot guarantee results.
- 7) I have authorised Dr. Johan van Heerden to take clinical photographs. Such photographs remain the property of Dr. Johan van Heerden.
- 8) I am allergic to: _____
- 9) In the event of a contractual dispute, or any other cause of action, litigation shall ONLY be instituted in a court of the Republic of South Africa.
- 10) I understand that full payment for cosmetic procedures will be made 7 days in advance to both the surgeon and the anaesthetist. Failure of payment will prevent the procedure from being booked on the theatre list.
- 11) Mediation:
 - 1) Should any dispute, disagreement or claim arise between Dr. Johan van Heerden and the patient (called hereafter "the dispute") concerning professional medical services rendered by Dr. Johan van Heerden to the patient, Dr. Johan van Heerden shall endeavour to resolve the dispute with the patient or claimant by mediation.
 - 2) It is in everyone's interest that health-related claims and disputes be resolved expeditiously, in a fair and cost-effective way. In the event of any such claim or dispute arising from treatment provided by Dr. Johan van Heerden, the patient agrees to attend an entirely free pre-mediation meeting before any legal action is taken.
 - 3) A qualified and independent mediator will chair the aforesaid pre-mediation meeting. The purpose of the confidential and without prejudice meeting will be to inform all interested parties about mediation so that they can take an informed decision whether to make use of mediation before any other legal action is taken.
 - 4) It is acknowledged that this agreement does not in any way violate the parties' constitutional rights in terms of Section 34 of the Constitution.

I certify that I have read the above authorisation, that the explanations referred to therein were made to my satisfaction, and that I fully understand such explanations and the above authorisation.

Signed: _____ Witness: _____ Date: _____
(Patient or person authorised to consent for patient)

INFORMATION 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 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.
- **DO NOT TAKE ANY HERBS OR SUPPLEMENTS FOR 2 WEEKS BEFORE THE SURGERY.**
- **STOP Disprin/Ecotrin, Grandpa OR ANY ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUGS 10 DAYS BEFORE SURGERY.**
- **STOP Clopidogrel/Plavix 7 DAYS BEFORE THE SURGERY.**

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 weeks.
- The non-absorbable suture knots on the outside of the skin need to be removed after 10 days. Please make an appointment.
- The rest of the sutures will be removed after approximately 2 weeks.
- 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.
- Please follow-up after 6 weeks for post-op photos.
- 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).
- The wound healing process takes 12 – 18 months, final scarring may only be judged after this time.