

## Otoplasty (Ear Surgery)

### The Effect of Otoplasty

Otoplasty, also known as ear surgery, reduces the size of large ears or 'pins' them back closer to the head so they protrude less.

### The Otoplasty Procedure

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The exact specifics of the procedure depend on the requirements of the individual.

### Best Candidates for Otoplasty

The best candidates for otoplasty are:

- Children between the ages of 4-14
- Adults in good health

There are a variety of ear problems that can also be helped with surgery. These include: lop ear, cupped ear and shell ear.

### Risks

All surgery carries risk, and you should be fully aware of the medical risks associated with this procedure before you consent to surgery. Your surgeon will discuss these risks with you during your consultation, and you are encouraged to ask questions if there is anything you do not understand.

You will be required to sign a consent form before surgery stating that you have been informed of the risks involved; that you understand those risks; and that you accept those risks. This is standard hospital protocol and surgery will not be performed if you do not sign.

It is your obligation to inform your surgeon of key medical information that may influence the outcome of your surgery or may increase the level of risk. These include medications you are taking, history of disease, medical complications, etc.

Risks and risk rates vary from patient to patient depending on a range of factors. No two people are alike. **The risks listed below are possible risks associated with this type of surgery and are mentioned regardless of how remote the possibility:**

**Infection of cartilage. Excessive scarring. Blood clot that may need to be drained. Mismatched or artificial- looking ears. Recurrence of the protrusion, requiring repeat surgery.**

### Surgery

**Time required:** 2-3 hours

**Anesthesia:** General or local with sedation

### Side effects

Temporary throbbing

Aching and swelling

Redness and numbness

### **Otoplasty Recovery Time**

**Back to work or school:** 5-7 days

**Strenuous activity or contact sports:** 1-3 months

### **Your Consultation**

Your physician consultation is very important, because it is the moment when you can discuss your medical issues face-to-face with your doctor. If you are traveling from overseas, this will be the first time you meet with your doctor so it critical that he/she understands:

- Your medical needs
- Your expectations
- Your medical history

Most people have a good idea of what the procedure or outcome they want ("I want smaller breasts"), and the physician's responsibility is to listen and then explain what can be done, the procedures or techniques to achieve your objectives, and the risks and costs involved.

You will have a lot of questions to ask, so preparation is key to make the most of your consultation. We suggest that you:

- Write your questions down to make sure you remember them
- Come with your medical history/survey already completed
- Bring any photos or visuals aids that will help explain what it is you want or expect from treatment

**Please note that this information should be used only as a guide to your treatment. All specifics will be discussed with your Physician at your consultation.**