

Purse String Facelift

The purse string suture facelift is a minimally invasive and permanent procedure that deals with those features of ageing and gravity to the lower face and neck. The procedure deals extremely well with those changes in the neck and the jowls especially but can also elevate the cheeks improving the appearance of the eyes and reducing the appearance of ageing of the skin. This is a procedure which has evolved from more major facelifts which may require weeks and months to settle because of greater dissection. This is to suit today's busy times where people want minimal downtime. When undertaken with other procedures such as a blepharoplasty, changes can be profound. This surgery is ideally suited to reverse those changes brought about from the effects of gravity in those aged from their 40s to their 70s.

This is formal surgery designed to lift sagging tissues beneath the skin and restore them to their former position and should not be confused with barbed sutures which are designed to elevate the skin only. The latter procedure does not confer a long-lasting effect. Experience tells us

that the appearance following a purse string suture lift at one year following surgery is a permanent fixture and any changes thereafter can be attributed to the relentless effects of gravity. This procedure is designed to elevate the facial features in a vertical direction rather than in a backwards direction resulting in the "wind-tunnel" effect.

The preoperative assessment is undertaken to assess which variety of the procedure suits each individual and surgery is carefully discussed in at least two consultations. The procedure can be undertaken under local anaesthetic, intravenous sedation or general anaesthetic depending on the candidate's wishes and tolerances.

Postoperatively, discomfort has largely settled by 3 days following surgery apart from discomfort when chewing which can last some weeks. Much of the bruising and swelling has settled within 10 days and by then, an almost imperceptible scar is faintly visible around the ears.

Visit www.facial-plastic-surgery.co.nz



Mr Brandon Hitchcock

MBChB FRACS

Otolaryngology
Facial Plastic Surgery

- MBChB – University of Cape Town, 1985
- Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons - Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, 1998
- Member of the New Zealand Otolaryngology Head and Neck Society
- Member of the Australasian Academy of Facial Plastic Surgery

www.facial-plastic-surgery.co.nz

60 Eighth Ave
Tauranga, New Zealand
E-mail: brandonh@orl.net.nz
Tel: +64 7 5716762
Fax: +64 7 5783109