



Face Lift Surgery Instructions

Failure to follow these instructions may lead to cancellation of surgery and further fees will apply.

▶ BEFORE YOUR SURGERY

Before taking any medication READ THIS!

- No aspirin (ASA) or anti-inflammatory medicine. Nothing containing aspirin like products* (“NSAIDS”) for two weeks before surgery since it interferes with normal blood clotting. Check the list at the end of these instructions for NSAID contained products **and if in doubt, call a pharmacist**. If needed, Tylenol or Extra-Strength Tylenol (Acetaminophen) may be used, as it is not NSAID related.
- **Two weeks before surgery STOP talking birth control pills, hormone replacement and other hormones** to reduce the risk of blood clot formation. Please use alternate methods of birth control. You may restart your birth control two weeks after surgery.
- Do not take Arnica Montana or Traumeel.
- Stop all nutritional supplements and nutraceuticals two weeks before surgery.
- Take 250-500 mg of Vitamin C per day for two weeks prior to surgery and for two weeks after surgery.
- Smokers should quit smoking before surgery – smoking dramatically increases the risk of major complications of surgery and anesthesia such as severe respiratory complications, skin death and increases the risk of infection. If you need assistance, such as a nicotine patch treatment, please ask your family physician.
- No alcohol for 48 hours prior to surgery.
- Report any signs of a cold, an infection, a boil or a pustule appearing within 1 week of surgery.
- Arrange for a responsible adult to drive you to your home, hotel or accommodation. If transport is needed a caregiver can be organized for you at an additional cost.
- **Have your prescriptions filled immediately after your pre-operative visit.** It is also advised to get a stool softener, such as Senekot, as codeine pain medications cause constipation.
 - My suggestion is that you take the recommended narcotic/ Tylenol combination and plan a diet with lots of bananas, stewed prunes and raisins along with a stool softener. A compote of prunes and raisins can easily be made by putting a package of each in a pot, adding a modest amount of water, bringing it to a boil and then turning it off, allowing it to cool, and placing the stew in a large jar in the refrigerator. In addition, eat at least two bananas a day. If you follow this regimen you should be able to have soft stools the consistency of thick toothpaste and several times a day.



- Gravol Suppositories may be helpful for nausea and vomiting post- operatively. Gravol products can be purchased without a prescription.
- **Remove all jewelry**, body piercings including both internal and external. Jewelry may cause injury while moving from one bed to another and burns may occur from cautery equipment used during surgery.
- If you are planning on using any cannabis products (marijuana, etc.) because you feel they may be helpful in pain control please discuss with Dr. Gelfant.

NOTHING TO EAT OR DRINK PAST MIDNIGHT THE NIGHT BEFORE SURGERY.

SURGERY and PICK-UP TIMES are subject to CHANGE. We will attempt to give you notice IF POSSIBLE.

▶ DAY OF SURGERY

- No make-up. Do not use cream on face or body. Remove contact lenses. No nail polish on fingernails and that includes gel and shellac.
- Do not take medication of any kind (unless instructed by Dr. Gelfant). If you have high blood pressure medication you may take it in the morning but only with a small sip of water.
- Wear comfortable, loose fitting clothes which do not have to be put on over your head. A top with a zipper up the front is best, no pantyhose.
- Bring a large scarf and sunglasses to wear after your surgery.
- You must have a responsible adult to drive for you after surgery. They must pick you up from inside Cambie Surgery Centre. Most of our facelift patients will spend the first night at the surgical centre.
- You must have a responsible adult spend the first night with you. Additional instructions and prescriptions can be given to the person caring for you. Such prescriptions should be filled promptly.

If you have any questions before your operation, please call our office Monday through Thursday 9am to 5pm and Fridays 8am to 2pm.

▶ AFTER YOUR SURGERY

- Take medications as needed according to instructions on the bottle. If taking strong narcotics, or if other pain medications make you feel “spacey” or drowsy, have someone else give you your medicines according to the proper time intervals.
- Rest in bed for the first 24 hours with a small pillow. Do not lie with your neck flexed. Rest your jaw, do little talking for 48 hours.



- Have a soft diet requiring little or no chewing. Lots of liquids, avoiding hot or spicy foods/ liquids.
- You may use cold compresses to help reduce the swelling and bruising. Use for 20 minutes each hour. No hot or warm compresses to the face.
- **You can expect:**
 - Mild to moderate discomfort- use medication or cool compresses
 - Moderate swelling
 - Blood shot eyes
 - Slight signs of blood on the bandages
 - The skin in front of the ears and temples will be numb
 - The neck and cheeks may feel tight during the first few weeks after surgery
- **Call 604-874-2078 after hours as we have a 24-hour answering service. They will reach either Dr. Gelfant or his alternate who is on call if you have:**
 - Severe pain not responding to pain medicine
 - Sudden bleeding
 - The bandages seem too tight
 - Extreme swelling and or pain on one side more than the other
 - If any other questions or problems arise
- Avoid smoking after your operation to prevent coughing and possible bleeding, as well as skin loss.
- You may wear make-up after the stitches are removed, and color/ bleach your hair 4 weeks after surgery.
- Elastic support is to be worn as much as possible until all stitches are removed. Support may be removed to shampoo hair and then should be replaced. It should be worn snugly, just to give the chin gentle support. Your hair should be shampooed daily until all sutures have been removed. You should use a blunt sparsely toothed comb and must carefully avoid combing near the suture line.
- Avoid strenuous exercise for 3 weeks post-surgery.
- Avoid prolonged exposure to sun and heat for 2 months.
- No alcohol while taking medication post-operatively.

We want you to be as comfortable as possible during your healing period. Please call us at any time.



► OFFICE VISITS

- First Visit: The first day the office is open following surgery, or the day after.
- Second Visit: 1 to 1- 1/2 weeks following surgery.
- Subsequent Visits: To be determined by Dr. Gelfant, usually 4 to 6 weeks later, then 6 months and 1-year post surgery.

ASA or anti-inflammatory containing drugs:

*i.e., Anacin, ASA, Bufferin, Calmine, Coricidin, Coryphen, Dolomine, Dristan Capsules, Entrophen, Herbopyrine, Instantine, Kalmex, Madelon, MED Tigol, Midol, Nervine, Nezgar Norgestic, Novasen, Novo AC&C, Pain AID, Robaxisal, 217, 222, 282, 292's, Upsarin. Also AC with codeine, Asantine, Coryphen, Darvon products, Endodan, Fiorinal, Novopropoxyn, Oxycodan, Painex, Percodan, Phenaphen, Robaxisal, 692, Tecnal, 282's, 292's, Artrol, Trilisate, Diclofenac, (Apo-Diclo, ApoDiclo SR, Arthrotec, Diclofenac, Ect, Novo-Difenac, Novo-Difenac SR, Nu-Diclo, Taro Diclofenac, Voltaren, Voltaren SR), Diclofenac potassium, (Voltaren Rapide), Diflunisal (Apo-Diflunisal, Dolobid, Novo-Diflunasil, Nu-Diflunisal), Etodolac (Ultradol), Fenoprofen Calcium, (Nalfon), Floctafenine (Idarac), Flurbiprofen (Anacad, Apoflurbiprophen FC, Froben, Froben SR, Novo-Flurprofen, Nu-flurbiprofen), Ibuprofen (Actiprofen, Advil, Advil Cold and Sinus, Amersol, Apo- Ibuprofen, Exedrin, IB, Medipren, Motrin, Motrin IB, Novo- Profen, Nuprin, Nu-Ibuprofen, Sinus PR & Pain reliever with Ibuprofen), Indomethacin, Apo-Indomethacin, Indocid, Indocid SR, Indolec, Nov-Methacin, Nu-Indo, Pro-Indo, Rhodacine (Ketroprofen), Apo-Keto, Apo-Keto-E, Novo-Keto, Novo-Keto-Ec, Nu- Ketroprofen, Nu-Ketroprofen-E, Orudis, Orudis-E, Orudis-SR, Oruvail, (PMS-Ketoprofen, PMS-Ketoprofen-E, Rhodis, Rhodis-EC), Ketorolac tromethamine (Acular, Toradol), Magnesium Salicylate (Back-Ese-M, Doan's Backache pills, Herbogesic), Mefenamic Acid (Ponstan) Nabumetone (Relafen), Naproxen (Apo-Naproxen, Naprosyn, Naprosyn-E, Naxen, Novo-Naprox, Nu-Naprox, PMS-Naproxen), Naproxen Sodium, anaprox, anaprox DS, Apo-Napro-Na, Naproxin-NA, Novo-Naprox Sodium, Synflex, Synflex DS. Oxyphenbutazone, Oxybutazone, Phenylbutazone, Alka Phenyl, Alka Phenylbutazone, Apo-Phenylbutazone, Butazolidin, Novo-Butazone, Phenylone Plus, Piroxicam, Feldene, Kenral-Piroxicam, Nova-Pirocam, Nu-Pirox, PMS-Piroxicam, Pro- Piroxicam, Rho-Piroxicam, Salsalate, Disalcid, Sodium Salicylate, Dodd's, Dodd's Extra Strength, Sulindac, Apo-Sulin, Clinoril, Nova-Sundac, Nu-Sulindac, Sulindac, Tenoxicam, Mobilflex, Tiaprofenicacid, Albert Tiafen, Apo-Tiaprofenic, Surgam, Surgam SR, Tolmetin sodium, Novo-Tolmetin, Tolectin