

## *Upper Cape Ear, Nose & Throat, PC*

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### **OTOPLASTY**

#### **PURPOSE**

Otoplasty is performed for people who are unsatisfied with the shape of their ears. In the most common situation, the ears stand out too far from the head. In the youngest children, this can be corrected by taping the ears into better position. Beyond infancy, it is necessary to surgically correct the problem. The object of the surgery is to restore a more normal appearance to the ears while maintaining a natural appearance.

#### **PROCEDURE**

Otoplasty is performed in the outpatient sugicenter under general anesthesia for children, and under local anesthesia for adults. Incisions are hidden either behind the ear or in the crease just inside the rim of the ear. The cartilage that gives the ear its shape is modified by thinning or scoring and is reshaped using permanent sutures that remain under the skin. Incisions are closed, and a bulky dressing is applied

#### **RECOVERY**

The dressing will remain undisturbed for 2-5 days. We will then remove it and check the wound for blood collection, and evacuate them if necessary. The dressing will be reapplied for sleep to prevent disturbing the repair inadvertently while rolling over in bed. The sutures will be removed, if necessary, at 1 week. At this point the ears are no longer very sensitive, but they will be red to purple in color. This discoloration will fade over the next couple of weeks. We will take post op photos at 1 month

#### **Risks**

The vast majority of patients are pleased with the surgery. Infections or blood collections may form, and require drainage. The result may not be symmetrical. One or both of the ears may remain prominent to some degree. Scarring can occur at the incision site.

**I have read, understand, and accept the risks and possible complications of this operation. Alternative treatments have been discussed with me and I want to go ahead with the surgery.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

