

Frequently Asked Questions

Facelift (Rhytidectomy)

Numbness: When the skin is separated from the underlying tissues during surgery, small sensory nerves are cut. Varying degrees of numbness will be present after surgery and will improve gradually as the nerves reconnect to the skin. This process can take from 2 months for face, neck, and cheek to 9-12 months for the forehead and scalp.

Tightness: Frequently there is a tight feeling in the neck after a face-lift. During surgery, not only the skin, but the underlying muscles are tightened to create a better and longer lasting result. Additionally, the swelling will move downward in the first week and the neck will feel even tighter. Do not be alarmed! You will not choke, and the sensation will decrease during the first month.

Healing of Sensory Nerves: As the nerves regenerate, itching, burning, tingling, and shooting sensations will occur. Ice, moisturizers, and gentle massaging are helpful during this phase of the healing process.