

Post-operative care for a Face Lift

After a facelift, a bandage will be applied around the head. Two drains will be coming out from behind each ear lobe. The patient should be nursed with their head up or on a few pillows to decrease the facial swelling. Any gross asymmetrical swelling should be reported as soon as possible. The facial dressing and the drains will be removed on the first post-operative day or the second day should this be more convenient. Once the dressing is removed, I am happy for patients to shower and wash their hair gently. Patients should sleep with their head up for 7-10 days post-operatively. The sutures will be removed at about one week post-op. Oral antibiotics are usually prescribed for five days post-operatively as well as oral pain relief. The swelling will be really quite terrible for the first week. The bruising and swelling should be nicely settled at about one week when the sutures are removed but there still might be swelling for 2-3 weeks post-operatively.