



EAR, NOSE & THROAT PLASTIC SURGERY CENTER

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Risks and Complications of Surgery **Parotidectomy (superficial and total)**

Scaring: The incision for a parotidectomy often is long. This necessary to achieve good exposure of the gland and ensure careful dissection of the Facial Nerve. Usually healing is very good, but occasionally the scar is noticeable for years.

Infection: Very rarely the surgical site can become infected post-operatively. Usually this is easily treated with antibiotics, but can delay healing. Occasionally, drainage will come from the incision. If this is infection it will be treated. If it is leakage of saliva it will usually resolve quickly.

Numbness: Facial numbness around the incision is common. Usually this resolves quickly, but **occasionally**, this can persist most commonly with total parotidectomy of large tumors. Numbness is the most common around the ear.

Frey's Syndrome: After some parotidectomies patients can have facial sweating during meals. This can often be controlled medically.

Facial Nerve Injury: Facial nerve injury resulting in various degrees of weakness is very uncommon after parotidectomy, but can occur. This is more common after total parotidectomies, and cancers. All patients undergoing parotidectomy will have continuous electrical monitoring of the Facial nerve to decrease the chance of injury. Most of the time any weakness will resolve, but occasional cases are permanent.

Facial Deformity: After removal of large parotid tumors there can be a sunken area left. In some patients this persists.

Anesthesia Complications: These are rare, but may be serious. You may discuss questions with the anesthesiologist.

Patient/Guardian/Relationship

Date

Witness

Signature of Patient or Guardian: _____

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MEDICATIONS TO AVOID

Due to bleeding problems encountered during surgery, please make sure that patients scheduled for surgery discontinue taking any of the following medications or any that are related to them for **TWO WEEKS BEFORE AND AFTER SURGERY.**

SALICYLATES

Aspirin
Bufferin
Anacin
Alka Seltzer
Easorin
Zorprin
Ascriptin
Ecotrin

IBUPROFEN

Motrin
Advil
Nuprin
Rufen
Medipren

OTHERS

Naprosyn
Persantine
Coumadin
Clinoril
Indocin
Ticlid
Toradol
Tolectin
Nalfon
Feldene
Norgesic
Voltaren

Medications containing acetaminophen such as Tylenol are acceptable.