

POST-OPERATIVE CARE FOLLOWING L I P O S U C T I O N

Call our office promptly if:

- ✓ Your temperature is over 100°.
- ✓ You experience increasing pain and swelling in the area under the chin with associated increase in bruising.
- ✓ If you have any difficulties swallowing or breathing that are increasing beyond the time that you were in the hospital.
- ✓ If any of the above should occur during regular office hours, the facial plastics nurse can be reached at 217 545-2540. The regular office hours are 8:00 to 4:30. If the nurse is not available, the facial plastics secretary can be reached at 217 545-2598. If it is after regular office hours (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM), we can be reached 24 hours a day by calling 217 545-8000 and asking the ENT resident on call be paged.

What Can I Expect?

- ✓ Mild pain and pressure are routinely expected in the area under the chin for the first few days following surgery. Most patients require little pain medication for this discomfort.
- ✓ Some numbness in this area is to be expected. As the area heals, some tingling may be experienced in the area as the nerves heal.
- ✓ Some redness and bruising in the area under the chin is to be expected. This will fade in the first two weeks after surgery. Make-up can be worn in the area within 5 days of surgery.
- ✓ When the dressing is removed, the skin will feel swollen and lumpy in some areas but this will smooth out in the first several weeks after surgery.

How Do I Care For Myself After Surgery?

- ✓ In the first 48 hours following surgery the supportive dressing **MUST** remain in place. After that, the dressing can be removed.