# The eyes have I T

# Surgical Opti

BY DR. KRISTINA ZA KHARY

It has often been said that the eyes are the windows to your soul. So what happens when the window shades droop over the windows? Excess skin folds, undesired bulges, or drooping of the upper lids make you look tired and older than you feel. Eyelid surgery, also known as Blepharoplasty, corrects the bulges and wrinkles around your eyes, resulting in a more rested and youthful appearance. It can also be per formed on fairly young individuals to correct hereditary heavy eyelids.

### ABOUT THE SURGERY

as a day surgery, with little discom fort, under local or general anes thesia, and under normal circum to perform. The incisions are made in an inconspicuous site along the natural folds of the eyelids, or lashline, where scars are least visible. The excess skin, muscle, and some times pockets of fat, are then IDEAL CAN DIDATES removed, and the incisions are



can be up and about. A certain tion. degree of swelling and bruising is Even those who seem like ideal

well as head elevation when lying Eyelid surgery is usually performed down, and eye drops, will enhance healing and relieve discomfort. You may be advised to limit certain activities for approximately 2 weeks stances, takes between 1 to 2 hours following the surgery, following which you will most likely be able to return to your normal activities. Some mild swelling and the inci sions continue to fade over time.

While most people who undergo closed with fine sutures, which can eyelid surgery are older than 35, be removed between 5 to 7 days those who have inherited droopy or baggy eyelids sometimes under go the procedure at an earlier age. Ideal candidates for this surgery are people in good physical and men tal health, who have realistic expec tations about the outcome of the procedure, and who have taken the risks of surgery into consideration. These risks must be discussed with Immediately after the surgery, you your surgeon during the consulta

normal, and cold compresses, as candidates may not be well-suited

for eyelid surgery, especially if they have specific medical or eye conditions that may be aggravated by the procedure, or may increase the risk of surgery. These include people who suffer from insufficient tear production, high blood pressure, diabetes, circulation disorders, or thyroid disease.

### COMBINING NON SURGICAL TREATMENTS

Many patients combine eyelid surgery with other non surgi cal treatments such as by muscle relaxing agent for wrinkle reduction especially in the crow's feet.

Fillers, such as Restylane, can be

used to replace lost cheek volume, and soften the crescentshaped hollowness at the lower eyelid-cheek junction,\_to camouflage lower eyelid puffiness. Additionally, laser resur facing with a Fraxel laser can improve the texture of crêpey and wrinkled eyelid skin. These procedures can be performed alone or at the same time as the eyelid surgery.

## PLANNING THE CHANGE

In considering any surgery, you must first be motivated to make the change for yourself, rather than to please others. The best source of information is your facial cosmetic surgeon who will discuss the options, define the expectations and inform you of any risks. Educate yourself about the procedure options and the surgeon's qualifications and training. If you're found to be a good candidate, eyelid surgery can correct those puffy or droopy upper eyelids and reduce those under-eye bags that make you appear older and more tired than you feel. By changing how you look, facial plastic surgery can help change how you feel about yourself, and let your light shine through.

# **MEDICARD®** PATIENT FINANCING

# Go ahead... now you can afford to.

No collateral

• No down payment • Affordable monthly payments Pre-approved financing

### It's easy.

To apply, simply call us toll-free at 1-888-689-9876 or fill out our online application at www.medicard.com and a Customer Service Representative



1-888-689-9876 medicard.com

