



Under the knife and into the light, Madge can't hide bruises.

Age-phobic Madonna appears to have gone under the knife in a desperate bid to maintain a youthful appearance.

The singer, who was spotted in New York wearing dark glasses at night, failed in an attempt to disguise purple bruises under both her eyes. Last week she was spied leaving the city's Medical Arts Center, where insiders suggest she may have undergone a cosmetic procedure.

"The shades and purple rings around the eyes are certainly suggestive of lower eyelid tightening surgery," says Sydney plastic surgeon Dr Mark Kohout.

"In fact, judging by the slightly faded quality of the bruising, I suspect she had surgery about seven to ten days before this photo was taken. Also, judging by the light reflection on the upper lip, I think Madonna has had a lip augmentation with a lip filler."

The star, 49, was photographed sporting a scar with swelling around her ear in September, which led to widespread speculation she had undergone a facelift.

However, Madonna's rep Liz Rosenberg has dismissed new cosmetic surgery speculation, labelling the talk "doubtful." Adds Liz, "I saw her over the weekend and she looked the same to me."

But her stance has drawn derision from some sources. "It's plain to see that Madonna's had something done – if it's not cosmetic surgery, someone must have beaten her up!" says one source.

"For years Madonna attributed her youthful appearance to a healthy lifestyle, with yoga and a macrobiotic diet – but there's only so much those things can do for her. Her days of relying on them alone to slow ageing seem to be long gone." **[F]**

MADONNA'S

EYELIFT