

# Consent for Otoplasty (EarCorrection)

---

I have discussed the operation with Dr. Kohout and I have received information on the possible risks and complications of surgery. The risks include, but are not limited to those listed below:

## ANAESTHETIC RISKS

All anaesthetics have risks which should be discussed with your anaesthetist prior to the procedure.

## GENERAL RISKS OF SURGICAL PROCEDURES

- Areas of the lungs may collapse (atelectasis), possibly leading to chest infection/pneumonia. Treatment of this complication may need admission to a hospital, intravenous antibiotics and chest physiotherapy.
- Clots in the legs (deep vein thrombosis or DVT) with resultant pain and swelling. Rarely part of this clot may break off and go to the lungs (pulmonary embolus or PE) which can be fatal.
- A heart attack because of strain on the heart or a stroke, both of which can be fatal.
- Bleeding may occur. At worst, this will require return to the operating theatre to evacuate the blood clot and to stop the bleeding.
- There will be bruising after surgery. This usually settles after approximately 2 weeks
- Wound infection may complicate the operation. The infection is usually treated with antibiotics, oral or intravenous, depending on its severity. This may lead to the wound opening up and / or increased scarring.
- Dehiscence or reopening of the wound may occur. This usually happens as a result of infection and is managed by treating the infection. Dehiscence in the absence of infection can be treated by resuturing the wound.
- Allergies to anaesthetic agents or antiseptic solutions
- Scarring: surgery results in scars, which may heal in unexpected ways. Unfavourable healing may result in scars that are wide, pigmented, lumpy, red, itchy, uncomfortable or even painful.

## SPECIFIC RISKS OF OTOPLASTY

All surgical procedures have risks, the following complications are listed there may be others discussed

- Incomplete correction of the prominence. It is very important to communicate with the surgeon before the operation to make certain you have realistic expectations of the outcome
- Asymmetry. Perfect symmetry of the ears is very difficult to achieve and slight differences between the two ears may occur.
- Recurrence. In about 5% of Otoplasty operations, the prominence of the ear recurs, usually within 12 months of the original operation. If this occurs, a repeat operation may be required for complete correction.
- Irregularities: cartilage lumpiness, creases and irregularities that are palpable or even visible through the skin may occur.
- Overcorrection: one or both ears may appear too flat or too close to the head.
- "Telephone Ear". The middle of the ear may be further back than the upper pole and the earlobe.
- Bleeding. This may result in the formation of a blood clot (haematoma) in the wound, which will require another operation to remove it. It may rarely lead to necrosis or destruction of the skin or cartilage causing severe cosmetic deformity.
- Infection of the wound or ear cartilage. This may rarely lead to death or breakdown of the skin or cartilage causing severe cosmetic deformity.
- Change in sensation of the ear (pinna) or low grade local discomfort

- Decrease in hearing acuity due to change in shape of the ear canal.
- Retained stitches. Some of the sutures used in otoplasty surgery are non-dissolving. This means that with time, these stitches can come to the surface and penetrate through the skin. Occasionally, they cause painful lumps. The best treatment, should these occur, is to remove the sutures. This may require an anaesthetic

## PATIENT CONSENT

- The doctor has explained my condition and the proposed procedure. I understand the risks of the procedure, including the risks that are specific to me, and the likely outcomes. The doctor has explained other relevant treatment options and their associated risks.
- I have been given an Information Sheet** about the procedure and its risks. I was able to ask questions and raise concerns with the doctor about my condition, the procedure and its risks, and my treatment options. My questions and concerns have been discussed and answered to my satisfaction.
- I understand that Smoking increases the risks of surgery and if I choose to smoke, I accept these higher risks.**
- I understand that the procedure may include a blood transfusion. I understand that if organs or tissues are removed during the surgery, that these may be retained for tests for a period of time and then disposed of sensitively by the hospital. The doctor has explained to me that if unforeseen events happen during the procedure, they will be treated accordingly.
- I understand that no guarantee has been given as to the results of the procedure.
- I understand that secondary, revisional operations may be required in some cases. I also understand that charges will be made for the use of the operating room, whether in the day surgery or in the hospital, and for any materials required. I agree to be responsible for these charges. A secondary surgical fee may be charged.
- I am aware that the practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science, and I acknowledge that no guarantees have been made to me as to the results of the operation or procedure; nor are there any guarantees against unfavourable results.
- I consent to be photographed before, during and after the surgery; that these photographs shall be the property of the doctor and may be used for scientific and educational. You will not be identified in any photo or video.
- Some operations require secondary or multiple procedures to obtain a better result. There may be a fee if a secondary procedure is required

On the basis of the above statements, I request to have the procedure performed.

Patient signature/Parent signature

X

\_\_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Doctor's signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

---