

SIEGEL

FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY

Otoplasty (Ear Pinning)

RISKS OF SURGERY

Most patients undergoing ear cosmetic surgery, to improve their appearance, have a successful outcome, though, like any surgery, there are some risks and potential complications to keep in mind. Complications can come from both expected and unexpected factors. Since every individual has unique skin types, tissue structures, blood circulation, healing responses, and reactions to anesthesia, it's difficult to promise specific outcomes or foresee every possible complication. However, working with a highly qualified and experienced Plastic Surgeon, like Dr. Siegel, can significantly lower the chances of untoward problems developing. Your surgery will be performed safely and with care, to provide you with the best possible result, and to allow for a smooth and speedy recovery. The following complications have been reported in the medical literature. They are listed here for your information, not to frighten you, but to make you aware and more knowledgeable concerning this surgical procedure.

- **Infection-** Although infection is rare, Infection risks are inherent in any invasive procedures, including neck liposuction. Every precaution will be implemented before, during, and after your procedure to minimize the risk of infection. Antibiotics will be prescribed to take after your procedure.
- **Scarring-** Very rare.
- **Asymmetry-** Everyone's ears are asymmetric; While the shape of the ears will improve the asymmetry between ears will remain asymmetries cannot be eliminated. This asymmetry may be more pronounced after surgery, as swelling and its resolution, are uneven between the two

sides of the face. Most asymmetries are transient and related to swelling and healing after surgery. Permanent asymmetries are very rare.

- **Recurrent Laxity**- In rare cases, the ears may partially or fully recoil to their previous position, and a second surgery may be required.

Other complications associated with neck rejuvenation surgery include:

- **Pain:** Excessive pain or severe pain that doesn't improve with medication
- **Swelling:** Unusual swelling or prolonged swelling
- **Bleeding:** Persistent bleeding or drainage from the incision site
- **Infection:** This is usually of the ear cartilage, which may result in cartilage loss and a permanent ear deformity. Signs of infection, such as redness, warmth, or fever should be treated promptly to avoid permanent complications.
- **Skin changes:** Skin discoloration, irregularities, or loss.
- **Numbness:** Temporary and usually self-resolving after the swelling resolves. Permanent numbness is very rare.
- **Fluid buildup:** Seromas, or temporary pockets of fluid, that may need to be drained.
- **Scarring:** Scarring that can be a concern for some patients.
- **Hematoma-** Blood collection. If not treated rapidly it may create a permanent ear deformity known as a "cauliflower ear".
- **Suture extrusion-** Sutures may come out of the skin months to years after surgery. Persistent hardening in the neck, such as a lump or a large area of scar tissue.
- **Overcorrection:** The ears may look "pinned back" more than desired.
- **Telephone deformity:** The top of the ear and earlobe may stick out more than the middle, making the ear look like a telephone.

Other complications associated with this as with any surgery include:

Adverse reactions to anesthesia, Internal puncture, Fat embolism, Kidney and heart problems, and local anesthetic toxicity.