

Ear surgery (Otoplasty)

Ear surgery is usually performed to set prominent ears back. Occasionally, it may be done to reduce the size, e.g. reduction of the size of the earlobe.

Who is an appropriate candidate?

Any individual with prominent ears may benefit from an otoplasty. In children, this procedure is occasionally covered by insurance

Consultation

During the initial consultation your wishes and goals as well as possible reservations will be addressed in detail. Subsequently, a careful physical examination is conducted with particular emphasis on facial proportions in relation to the ears and an individually tailored treatment plan formulated. Preoperative photographs are used for explaining the procedure in a step-by-step manner. Available procedures are then discussed including possible limitations and risks. Our goal is to provide you with a realistic image of what you can expect from such a procedure.

At a glance:

Length of procedure:

- Approx. 1,5 hours

Postoperative care:

- Head bandage for 1 week
- Head band for 3 weeks during sleep

Anesthesia:

- Local (adults)
- General (children)

In-patient stay:

- Outpatient

Procedure

This procedure is performed on an outpatient basis under local anesthesia. In children, general anesthesia is used. Surgery usually takes approx. 1,5 hours. The technique will depend on the individual problem. A small incision is made in the back of the ear to expose and subsequently sculpt and bend the cartilage back toward the head. Occasionally, cartilage needs to be removed. The patients head is wrapped in a bulky bandage for one week to promote best molding and healing.

Postoperative Care

The head bandage is removed within one week and a headband applied, which is to be worn for 3 weeks (at nights only). Children can go back to school within one week. Adults should plan a one-week vacation.