

A close-up photograph of a woman's face and neck. Her hand is gently touching her neck. The lighting is soft and warm, highlighting the skin's texture. In the upper center, there is a dark, textured rectangular box containing the text 'DR MATTEO VIGO' and 'PLASTIC SURGERY' below it.

DR MATTEO
VIGO

PLASTIC SURGERY

FACE & NECK LIFT:
A PATIENT GUIDE

As part of the aging process which happens to all of us sooner or later, our skin progressively loses its elasticity and our muscles tend to slacken. The stresses of daily life, effects of gravity and exposure to sun can be seen on our faces. The folds and smile lines deepen, the corners of the mouth droop, the jaw line sags and the skin of the neck becomes slack.

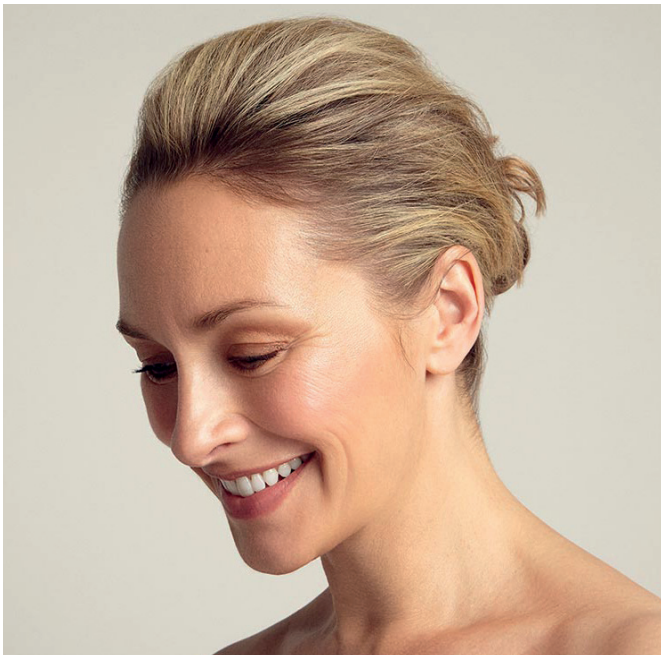
Around the eyes, the eyebrows droop and the skin of the eyelids gathers in loose folds. In the skin the first sign is fine wrinkles developing around the lips, at the outer corners of the eye and lines of expression. The rate at which this happens varies from one person to another and is probably determined by our genes. Aging of the skin of the face does not necessarily reflect the rate that the rest of our body and mind is ageing and many people feel frustrated that the face they see in the mirror is not the one they feel should be there. Substantial weight loss can produce similar changes in facial appearance to those of the aging process.

WHAT IS FACELIFT AND NECKLIFT SURGERY?

A facelift is an operation to tighten and lift the loose skin of your face below the eyes. (Anything above the eyes is a browlift.) A necklift tightens and lifts the skin of the neck.

WHY HAVE A FACELIFT OR NECKLIFT?

As you age, your skin gets less elastic and droops, and your facial muscles slacken. The natural fat under the skin also sags, making you look older. The rate this happens at varies from person to person, and is probably determined by your genes. The stresses of daily life, the effect of gravity and exposure to the sun also affect your face. Drastic weight loss can also age the face. The rate your face ages does not necessarily reflect the rate that the rest of your body and mind is ageing, and you may feel that the face you see in the mirror is not the one you should have.



A facelift gives the best results if your face and neck have started to sag but your skin still has some elasticity and your bone structure is strong and well defined. Most people who have facelifts are in their 40s to 60s, but facelifts can be done successfully on people in their 70s or 80s. It should not be obvious that you have had a facelift, but you should look younger, healthier, lively and cheerful.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN BEFORE MY OPERATION?

You will meet your surgeon to talk about why you want surgery and what you want. The surgeon will make a note of any illnesses you have or have had in the past. They will also make a record of any medication you are on, including herbal remedies and medicines that are not prescribed by your doctor. Your surgeon will examine your face and neck, and may take some photographs for your medical records. They will ask you to sign a consent form for taking, storing and using the photographs.

The surgeon will measure your height and weight to make sure that it is safe to do an operation. If you are overweight, or planning to become pregnant, your surgeon may suggest delaying your operation.

A facelift improves the lower half of the face, particularly the jawline. If you have sagging eyebrows and wrinkles on your forehead, your surgeon may suggest a browlift. Loose skin with fine wrinkles, freckles and rough areas will benefit more from a chemical peel or laser resurfacing, which can be performed with a facelift, browlift or necklift.





HOW IS THE SURGERY PERFORMED?

A facelift involves raising and repositioning the skin and soft tissue of the face. During the operation, cuts are made on both sides of the face in front of the ear, extending up along the hairline, just in front of or behind the cartilage, and around behind the earlobe, into the crease behind the ear and then into the lower scalp. Occasionally, the surgeon may need to make a small cut under the chin for the necklift part of the surgery. Sometimes only the skin above the neck is lifted (a facelift only).

Sometimes the neck muscle and the skin over it is just tightened by stitching them together (a necklift only).

Sometimes the neck muscle and the skin over and above it are tightened and then lifted and stitched tightly to the solid structures in front of and behind the ear (a facelift and necklift).

Excess skin is then removed, and the remaining skin is sewn into position. Fat and tissue is redistributed, and is sometimes added to the face.

HOW CAN I HELP MY OPERATION BE A SUCCESS?

Be as healthy as possible. It is important to keep your weight steady with a good diet and regular exercise. If you intend to lose weight, you should do so before the operation. This allows the surgeon to remove more skin and so achieve a better result. You should avoid taking tablets containing aspirin, as well as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, such as Voltarol and Indocid, for at least two weeks before the operation as they increase the risk of bleeding.

If you are planning to have your hair permed, bleached or coloured, do this before your operation as fresh scars are sensitive to these chemicals for a few weeks.

If you smoke, stopping at least six weeks before the operation will help to reduce the risk of complications, particularly the risk of the flaps of skin behind the ear losing their blood supply. Do not worry about removing hair near where we will be making cuts, but do have a bath or shower during the 24 hours before your operation to make sure that the area is as clean as possible.



WHAT IS THE ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT?

Facelifts and necklifts are the most effective ways of tightening the skin of your face and neck. They do not get rid of wrinkles around your eyes, forehead and mouth. Other treatments such as Botox injections can help with this.

Facelifts and necklifts do not change the texture and look of your skin, though treatments such as laser resurfacing (where a laser is used to burn the surface of your skin in a controlled way) or chemical peels (where a chemical is applied to peel off the surface of the skin) may help with this. Sometimes, fat grafting or lipofilling (where fat removed by liposuction from another part of the body, such as the hips or thighs, is injected into the face) can be performed instead of or as well as facelift, to make your face and skin look younger. Sometimes sagging eyebrows can be the main problem. In this case, a browlift, either on its own or with a facelift or necklift, may help to tighten the skin on your face.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN RISKS AND COMPLICATIONS OF FACELIFTS AND NECKLIFTS?

As with all operations, there are risks involved in having a facelift or necklift. Although the risks are unlikely, it is important to weigh them up against the potential benefit of the surgery. Discuss each of them with your plastic surgeon to make sure you understand the potential complications and consequences.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER THE OPERATION

Facelifts and necklifts are usually carried under a general anaesthetic (so you would be asleep) or a local anaesthetic (where the whole area is numbed with injections and you might be sedated). The operation takes between two and five hours. You might be given antibiotics to keep the wound clean. You may have drainage tubes in your face or neck to drain away any fluid or blood. These tubes will be taken out when the fluid or



blood has stopped draining, usually before you go home. You might go home the same day, but most likely you will stay in hospital overnight. If you do go home on the same day, a responsible adult should stay with you for the night. Your face and neck will feel tight and sore. Simple painkillers should be enough to keep you comfortable.

DRESSINGS

You will have some dressings on your face and neck. Most surgeons will bandage your face to reduce bruising and swelling. These bandages will stay on for one or two days, and the stitches will be removed after seven or eight days.

RECOVERY

It is normal for there to be some numbness of the skin of the cheeks and ears. This will usually improve in a few weeks or months, although there may be long-term loss of sensitivity of the skin in front of your ears. It is better to keep your head up to reduce swelling. In particular, sleep with extra pillows to keep your head raised for the first few days after surgery. You will be out of bed on the same day as your surgery, and doing light activities after two weeks. Avoid strenuous activity, saunas and massage for at least two weeks. At first your face will look a little puffy and may feel rather strange and stiff. The scars can be very well hidden with your hair so that you can return to work and socialising within a couple of weeks. Men find it more difficult than women to disguise the scars, and their beard will grow closer to their ears as a result of the skin being lifted.



DR. MATTEO
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PLASTIC SURGERY

A BRIEF NOTE FROM DR. MATTEO VIGO



I decided to become a doctor at an early age but I was not aware of the world of Plastic Surgery. Once I have discovered it I fell in love with the whole concept behind and how this field of Medicine can be helpful for many people.

I passionately believe that, in order to improve the physical aspect of a patient, the plastic surgeon needs to combine the principles of art and science, adopting a global approach to understanding the individual desires.

Plastic Surgery is a truly fascinating, dynamic, constantly evolving field of medicine and I believe that the role of a Cosmetic Surgeon is unique and highly privileged.

My main goal is to understand the needs of a patient and try to transform their desires into reality. The role of a plastic surgeon is not only merely surgical but also supportive in the decision process of the best treatment to help patients finding themselves and their wellbeing.

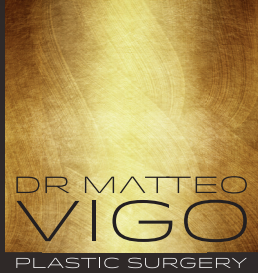
All these steps are taken into consideration once a person walks in my office and the service I am offering them is always at the top.

I am combining experience, quality and professionalism to evaluate each single case and offer the best solution for my patients.

"Because you deserve the best" is my motto and I want always to put the patient at the centre of what I am doing.

You have to feel pampered, understood, listened, loved once in my office and the feedback of these feelings from my patient is my best satisfaction.

Dr Matteo Vigo



PLASTIC SURGERY DUBAI

Click [here](#) to learn more about
[Plastic Surgery Dubai](#).

To book a Plastic Surgery consultation with
Dr Vigo, please contact us today.

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