

EYELID SURGERY: 'I Not Only See Better ... I Look Better'

Dr. Denny Ragsdale didn't like what he saw in the mirror every morning. Dr. Ragsdale is a physician in active practice and he often works late into the night, poring over patients' records and charts.

"I'm an old guy," he jokes, "all of 61. You expect some things to change as you age, but those eyelids were an unexpected problem."

Fortunately for Dr. Ragsdale, the answer to his problem was solved when he met Roger E. Bassin, M.D. Dr. Ragsdale was intrigued.

"When I graduated from medical school, eye doctors didn't have sub-specialties like that," he said.

Dr. Ragsdale scheduled an appointment with Dr. Bassin, a fellowship-trained eyelid and facial plastic surgeon. Dr. Bassin is a board certified ophthalmologist who is also a fully trained facial plastic surgeon.

"From a cosmetic standpoint, heavy upper eyelids can make a person look angry or fatigued and add years to their appearance. Plastic surgeons do perform blepharoplasty, but they also do breast augmentation, tummy tucks and liposuction," said Dr. Bassin.

"They aren't trained to deal with eye complications that may result from blepharoplasty. Eye surgeons are better prepared than other surgical professionals - both in our equipment and training, and in our familiarity with the anatomy of the eyelids - to perform this type of surgery. We also have the training and diagnostic tools to identify a host of ocular conditions that can affect - and be affected by - the results of eyelid surgery. That is why plastic surgeons routinely refer their eyelid surgery patients for thorough ophthalmologic exams prior to scheduling eyelid procedures, they want to be sure their patients have the benefit of our advanced knowledge."

Dr. Bassin's dual training as an ophthalmologist and facial plastic surgeon allows him to correct functional and cosmetic problems for patients who come to him in despair after failed surgeries performed by others.

"Patients need to select their surgeons carefully," he said.

Dr. Bassin is highly skilled in performing the cheek midface lift and lower eyelid surgery featuring the state-of-the-art "invisible incision." What this means is that there is no visible scar left on your face. Dr. Bassin performs his surgery through the inside of the eyelid. Eye surgeons pioneered a transconjunctival approach, making their incisions inside the lower lid so no evidence of the surgery appears on the surface of the skin.

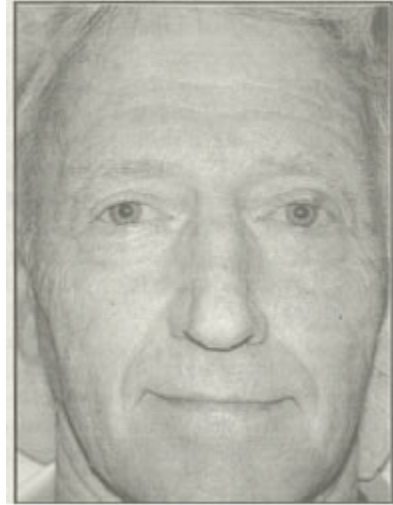
"When performing cheek and mid-face lifts, this approach allows me to access sagging muscles from above," Dr. Bassin said. "Repositioning those muscles from above, rather than from the side, near the ears, as many surgeons do, allows me to restore tone in the most natural-looking way possible." Dr. Bassin notes that these procedures are minimally invasive, and there are almost no side effects.

Dr. Ragsdale, a recent patient of Dr. Bassin's, explained, "I don't remember the surgery at all, I was comfortably sedated and I was completely confident in Dr. Bassin's hands, so I didn't have anxiety about my outcome. What was amazing to me is that I experienced absolutely no bruising. I followed Dr. Bassin's instructions for post-operative care, and the results were startling. I didn't even notice any swelling in the area of my incisions."

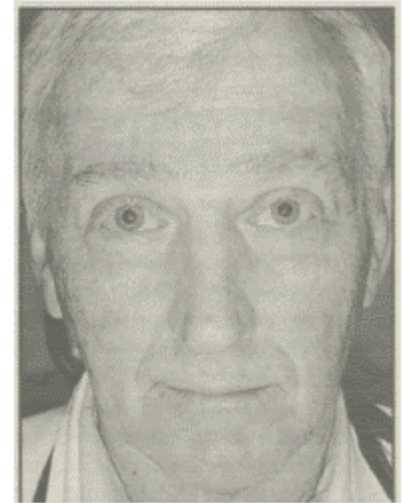
Dr. Ragsdale says that when patients come to his office now, they are puzzled over the difference they notice in his appearance. He admits that he lets them wonder. He also admits that it doesn't hurt to have people tell him that he looks 10 years younger. "Dr. Bassin gave me more than I bargained for with my eyelid surgery," Ragsdale said. "I'm seeing better ... and looking better!"

Dr. Bassin welcomes questions regarding this article or other plastic surgery topics. Dr. Bassin performs facelifts, mid-face lifts, state-of-the-art endoscopic brow lifts, laser skin resurfacing, botox and collagen injections.

The Bassin Center is located at 1995 NASA Blvd., Suite 201, Melbourne. Call 723-9885 or check out Dr. Bassin's website at www.drassin.com.



PRE-OP



POST-OP

Is It A Headache Or A Migrane?

By asking three simple questions, you may be able figure out if you have a migraine -- an often-missed diagnosis.

If you answer yes to at least two of these three questions, you could have a migraine, according to a new study.

- Has a headache limited your activities for a day or more in the last three months?

- Are you nauseated or sick to your stomach when you have a headache?

- Does light bother you when you have a headache?

The study, appearing in the recent issue of *Neurology*, calls the test ID Migraine.

Researchers say this test is a major breakthrough because as many as half of migraine sufferers go

undiagnosed -- leaving many people frustrated from lack of answers for their pain.

The researchers estimate that these three questions would accurately identify 93 percent of people with migraines.

Migraine headaches are more common than diabetes or asthma. Migraines strike women more frequently than men. The exact cause is unknown