



DR. BRENT SKIPPEN

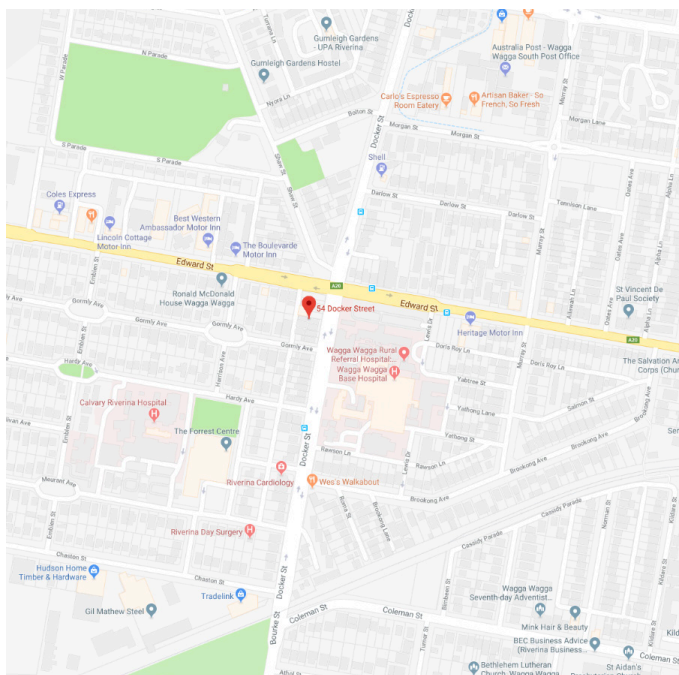
BMed Sc MBBS (Hons) MPHTM FRANZCO

OPHTHALMIC & OCULOPLASTIC SURGEON

Contact Dr Skippen and his team
for more information.

54 DOCKER STREET
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650
p. 02 6925 5900

e. info@brentskippen.com.au
w. www.brentskippen.com.au



Blepharoplasty eyelid surgery: A guide for patients



Are you unhappy with how your eyelids look?

Do you always look tired?

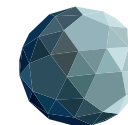
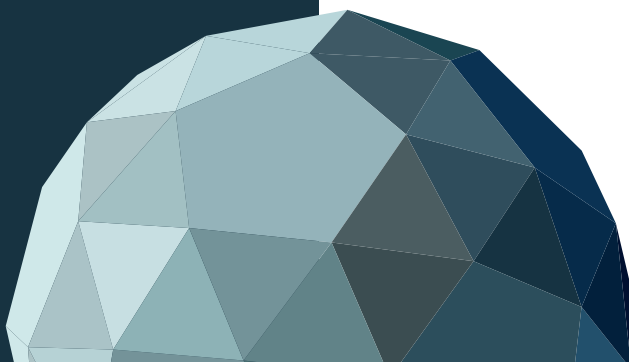
Do your upper eyelids always feel heavy?

Do your lower eyelids have bulges
or dark circles?

Non-surgical treatments may be the
answer for you.

Eyelid surgery may also be the right solution,
offering longer term results.

Dr Skippen will listen to your concerns and
use his experience to offer the best individual
solution for your eyelids and around your
eyes.



DR. BRENT SKIPPEN

BMed Sc MBBS (Hons) MPHTM FRANZCO

OPHTHALMIC & OCULOPLASTIC SURGEON

What is blepharoplasty surgery?

Blepharoplasty is a surgical procedure of the eyelids that removes excess skin, and sometimes excess fat or muscle, from the eyelids. Blepharoplasty can be performed on the upper and/or lower eyelids and the aim of surgery is to regain a younger and less tired appearance.

Upper Blepharoplasty

For the upper eyelids, usually only excess skin is removed through an incision hidden in the natural upper eyelid crease. If the eyelid is also droopy, the muscle that raises the upper lid can be tightened. The incision is closed with fine sutures.

Lower Blepharoplasty

Fat in the lower eyelids can be removed or repositioned through an incision hidden on the inner surface of the eyelid. A small amount of excess lower eyelid skin is removed if needed, via an incision just below the eyelashes. The incision is closed with fine sutures.

Upper and Lower Blepharoplasty (Combined)

Upper and lower blepharoplasty are commonly performed together at the same time and also can be combined with other procedures such as eyebrow lift or fat grafting.

Your consultation with Dr Skippen

Many patients are referred to Dr Skippen for management of droopy or heavy eyelids which may even affect vision. Some patients also want to improve their appearance and look less tired.

Dr Skippen will ask about the history of these issues and perform a complete facial examination to determine what are the actual issues and what might be the most appropriate management option(s).

Clinical photographs are an excellent means of discussing your concerns together in the office.

Before surgery

You will book your surgery with one of the day surgeries in Wagga Wagga where Dr Skippen performs blepharoplasty surgery.

The day surgery will contact you the day before your operation with the time to arrive and the expected time of departure following surgery.

Surgery Procedure

Upper eyelids

Upper eyelid surgery is a day procedure performed under local anaesthetic with sedation. Surgery typically takes 30 minutes.

Lower eyelids

Lower eyelid or combined upper and lower eyelid surgery is a day procedure performed under either general anaesthetic or under local anaesthetic with sedation, depending upon your preference. Surgery typically takes 90 to 120 minutes.

After surgery

After all eyelid surgery with Dr Skippen, cool compresses are placed on both eyelids to minimize swelling. This occurs for the first 30 minutes after your surgery in recover at the day surgery.

Dr Skippen recommends continuing some form of cool compress on your eyelids for 15 minutes each hour for the next two days to minimize bruising and speed recovery.

You will go home on the day of surgery and commence application of antibiotic eye ointment to your eyelids as directed. You will see Dr Skippen one week later for removal of any external stitches.

Most people will be back at work a week after surgery but should avoid intense exercise for two weeks following surgery.

Risks of blepharoplasty surgery

The risks of surgery are low.

Temporary swelling may occur for a few days after surgery which is normal. Recovery from lower eyelid surgery is longer than upper eyelid surgery. Dry eyes following surgery are possible and asymmetry is a low risk. Bleeding, scarring, vision impairment and infection are possible, but very uncommon.

Will private health insurance cover the surgery?

Upper eyelid surgery may be covered by Medicare (and therefore health funds) under certain circumstances. It is uncommon for patients to meet these criteria, and some health funds require pre-approval by Medicare. Droopy upper eyelids can attract an item number and you should check with your health fund prior to any surgery if you will be able to use that item number.

Lower eyelid surgery is usually considered cosmetic and therefore very rarely covered by Medicare (and therefore health funds).

What results can I expect from eyelid surgery?



Before surgery



After surgery (combined upper and lower eyelid)