

Entropion/Ectropion Repair

Ectropion

Ectropion is a problem in the area of the eyelashes. Patients with ectropion have a sagging upper or lower eyelid caused by lack of tone and strength in the muscles that hold the eyelid against the eye. The drooping muscle leaves the affected area of the eye exposed and dry.

Ectropion is most common among people over the age of 60 and causes eye irritation, burning, a gritty, sandy feeling and a red, irritated eyelid. Ectropion may also cause excessive tearing, but wiping and drying area around the eye makes the sagging worse.

We can lubricate and ease the irritation in the eye temporarily with artificial tears and ointments, but the only way to correct the problem is to tighten the lid with surgery.

Entropion

Like ectropion, entropion is a defect in the eyelash area of the eye; however, the symptoms of entropion are more severe. With entropion, the eyelid turns inward, allowing the lashes to touch the eye, rubbing the eye and causing irritation, tearing, burning, a sandy, gritty feeling in the eye and reddened eyes. Entropion usually affects the lower lid and usually stems from a muscle spasm. It can also be caused by scarring or inflammation.

We can provide temporary relief with artificial tears and by showing you how to pull the lid down and secure it in place with tape. But to permanently correct the problem, surgery is required. This can often be performed in the office in a short period of time with a local anesthetic. The scarring from the surgery is minimal and usually doesn't show because the incisions follow the eyelid margin.