

INFORMED CONSENT FOR

**FACELIFT AND NECKLIFT**

**FACELIFT ONLY**

**NECKLIFT ONLY**

**FACELIFT AND NECKLIFT**

**PLEASE REVIEW AND BRING WITH YOU ON THE DAY OF YOUR PROCEDURE**

PATIENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**KAROL A GUTOWSKI, MD, FACS**

*AESTHETIC SURGERY*

*CERTIFIED BY THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PLASTIC SURGERY*

*MEMBER AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC SURGEONS*

**JULIA L KEROLUS, MD, FACS**

*AESTHETIC SURGERY*

*CERTIFIED BY THE AMERICAN BOARD OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY-HEAD AND NECK SURGERY*

*MEMBER AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FACIAL PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY*

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

This is an informed-consent document which has been prepared to help inform you about facelift and necklift surgery, its risks, and alternative treatments.

It is important that you read this information carefully and completely. Please initial each page, indicating that you have read the page and sign the consent for surgery as proposed by your plastic surgeon(s) and agreed upon by you.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Facelift or necklift, also called rhytidectomy, is a surgical procedure to improve visible signs of aging on the face and neck. As individuals age, the skin and muscles of the face region begin to lose tone. The procedure cannot stop the process of aging. It can improve the most visible signs of aging by tightening deeper structures, re-draping the skin of face and neck, and removing selected areas of fat if necessary. A facelift and necklift can each be performed alone, together, or in conjunction with other procedures, such as a brow lift, liposuction, eyelid surgery, nasal surgery or with fat grafting.

Facelift and necklift surgery is individualized for each patient. The best candidates for surgery have a face and neck line beginning to sag, but whose skin has elasticity and whose bone structure is well defined.

## **ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS**

Alternative forms of management consist of not treating the laxness in the face and neck region with a facelift or necklift. Improvement of skin laxity, skin wrinkles and fatty deposits may be attempted by other non-surgical treatments such as Ulthera, CoolSculpting, chemical peels, laser resurfacing, facial fillers, botox, etc. or surgery such as liposuction, suspension sutures, etc. Risks and potential complications are also associated with alternative surgical forms of treatment.

## **INHERENT RISKS OF FACELIFT SURGERY**

Every surgical procedure involves a certain amount of risk and it is important that you understand these risks and the possible complications associated with them. In addition, every procedure has limitations. An individual's choice to undergo a surgical procedure is based on the comparison of the risk to potential benefit. Although the majority of patients do not experience these complications, you should discuss each of them with your plastic surgeon(s) to make sure you understand all possible consequences of surgery.

## **SPECIFIC RISKS OF FACELIFT AND NECKLIFT SURGERY**

**Hair Loss** - Hair loss may occur in areas of the face where the skin was elevated during surgery. Though an unusual occurrence the most common locations are in the temple area and behind your ear. The occurrence of this is not predictable.

**Nerve Injury** - Motor and sensory nerves may be injured during surgery. Weakness or loss of facial movements may occur after surgery. Nerve injuries may cause temporary or permanent loss of facial movements and feeling. Such injuries may improve over time. Additional surgical procedures such as nerve repair, grafting or transfer may be required should you have a nerve injury. Injury to sensory nerves of the face, neck and ear regions may cause temporary or more rarely permanent numbness. Painful nerve scarring is very rare.

**Use of Platelet Gel or Fibrin Sealants "Tissue Glue" During Surgery Advisory** - Platelet Gel (from your blood) and Fibrin sealants (from heat-treated human blood components to inactivate

virus transmission) may be used to hold tissue layers together at surgery and to diminish post-operative bruising following a rhytidectomy. Sealants have been carefully produced from screened donor blood plasma for hepatitis, syphilis, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). These products have been used safely for many years as sealants in cardiovascular and general surgery. This product is thought to be of help in diminishing surgical bleeding and by adhering layers of tissue together.

**Previous Surgical Scars** - Surgical scars from previous facial surgery may limit the amount of skin tightening that can be produced.

**Asymmetry** - Symmetrical body appearance may not result after surgery. Factors such as skin tone, fatty deposits, skeletal prominence, and muscle tone may contribute to normal asymmetry in body features. Most patients have differences between the right and left side of their faces before any surgery is performed. Additional surgery may be necessary to attempt to diminish asymmetry.

**Parotid Fistula** - The parotid gland rests at the angle of your jaw and produces saliva. In deeper facelifts the gland can be opened resulting in persistent leakage of this saliva into the facelift surgery site. This is referred to as a salivary or parotid fistula. A simple test of the fluid called an amylase will determine if a salivary or parotid fistula is present. Additional non-surgical treatment such as Botox or surgical treatment may be required to close a salivary or parotid fistula.

**Seroma** - Infrequently, fluid may accumulate between the skin and the underlying tissues following surgery, trauma or vigorous exercise. Should this problem occur, it may require additional procedures for drainage of fluid. Seroma's should be addressed to prevent an unfavorable outcome. Should this problem occur, notify your surgeon(s) and additional procedures for drainage of fluid may be required. A seroma following surgery usually resolves with repeated aspiration.

**Recurrence of Signs of Aging/ Redo-Facelift** - This procedure is a temporary measure to improve the visible signs of aging. The exact duration or longevity of your facelift and necklift can be dependent upon many factors including your bone structure, weight gain/ loss, etc. as well as the technique utilized to perform your facelift. The procedure cannot stop the process of aging. It can improve the most visible signs of aging by tightening deeper structures, re-draping the skin of face and neck, and removing selected areas of fat if necessary.

**Distortion of Anatomic Landmarks** - There is the inherent risk of distortion of the hairline, side burns, earlobes, along with the shape of the face, eyes, and neck during this procedure. These may be permanent, and may require further surgeries to improve.

## **GENERAL RISKS OF SURGERY**

**Healing Issues** - Certain medical conditions, dietary supplements and medications may delay and interfere with healing. Patients with massive weight loss may have a healing delay that could result in the incisions coming apart (partial wound dehiscence), infection, and tissue changes resulting in the need for additional medical care, surgery, and prolonged hospitalizations. Patients with diabetes or those taking medications such as steroids on an extended basis may have prolonged healing issues. Smoking will cause a delay in the healing process, often resulting in the need for additional surgery. There are general risks associated with healing such as swelling, bleeding, possibility of additional surgery, prolonged recovery, color changes, shape changes, infection, not meeting patient goals and expectations, and added expense to the patient. There may also be a longer recovery due to the length of surgery and anesthesia. Patients with significant skin laxity will continue to have the same

lax skin after surgery. The quality or elasticity of skin will not change and recurrence of skin looseness will occur at some time in the future, quicker for some than others.

**Bleeding-** It is possible, though unusual, to experience a bleeding episode during or after surgery. Should bleeding occur, it may require emergency treatment to drain accumulated blood or you may require a blood transfusion, though such occurrences are rare. The collection of blood that can occur under your skin following surgery is referred to as a hematoma. Increased activity too soon after surgery can lead to increased chance of bleeding and additional surgery. It is important to follow postoperative instructions and limit exercise and strenuous activity for the instructed time. Non-prescription “herbs” and dietary supplements can increase the risk of surgical bleeding. Hematoma can occur at any time, usually in the first three weeks following injury to the operative area. If blood transfusions are necessary to treat blood loss, there is the risk of blood-related infections such as hepatitis and HIV (AIDS). Your surgeon(s) may provide medications after your surgery to prevent blood clots. Medications that are used to prevent blood clots in veins can produce bleeding and decreased blood platelets.

**Infection** - Infection, although uncommon, can occur after surgery. Should an infection occur, additional treatment including antibiotics, hospitalization, or additional surgery may be necessary. It is important to tell your surgeon(s) of any other infections, such as a history of MRSA infections, an open wound, recent upper respiratory infection/ pneumonia, ingrown toenail, insect bite, tooth abscess, or urinary tract infection. Infections in other parts of the body, may lead to an infection in the operated area. Post-operative infections often result in more extensive scarring and predispose to revision surgery.

**Bowl Problem** - The return of bowl function following surgery is important. An ileus are disruptions in bowl function caused by the failure of peristalsis or hypomobility of your bowels/ gut resulting in a lack of defecation and possibly repeated vomiting. Anesthetics and medications like pain medications given to you at the time of surgery can contribute to the development of an ileus in the post-operative period. An ileus can result in abdominal distention, vomiting, inability to absorb oral medications and possibly hospitalization. Repeated vomiting could result in an aspiration pneumonia and respiratory failure. It can be essential to have regular bowl function after your surgery.

**Major Wound Separation** - Wounds may separate after surgery. Should this occur, additional treatment including surgery and even hospitalization may be necessary.

**Scarring** - All surgery leaves scars, some more visible than others. Although good wound healing after a surgical procedure is expected, abnormal scars may occur within the skin and deeper tissues. Scars may be unattractive and of a different color than the surrounding skin tone. Scar appearance may also vary within the same scar. Scars may be asymmetrical (appear different on the right and left side of the body). There is the possibility of visible marks in the skin from sutures. In some cases scars may require surgical revision or treatment.

**Revision Surgery** - Every effort is made for you to have a favorable outcome but, unforeseen events can occur that may require revisional surgery. Patients with multiple medical problems, massive weight loss patients, smokers, patients that develop infections after surgery and other high risk patients have a greater propensity to require revisional surgery. Issues that could need to be addressed in the post-operative period include but are not limited to skin excess, asymmetry, contour irregularities, folds, wrinkles, loose skin, ear lobe malposition or loss, and hair line distortion.

**Firmness** - Excessive firmness can occur after surgery due to internal scarring. The occurrence of this is not predictable. Additional treatment including surgery may be necessary.

**Skin Sensitivity** -

Itching, tenderness, or exaggerated responses to hot or cold temperatures may occur after surgery. Usually this resolves during healing, but in rare situations it may be chronic.

**Sutures** - Most surgical techniques use deep sutures. You may notice these sutures after your surgery. Sutures may spontaneously poke through the skin, become visible or produce irritation that requires suture removal.

**Damage to Deeper Structures** - There is the potential for injury to deeper structures including nerves, blood vessels, lymphatics, muscles, and lungs (pneumothorax) during any surgical procedure. The potential for this to occur varies according to the type of procedure being performed. Injury to deeper structures may be temporary or permanent.

**Fat Necrosis** - Fatty tissue found deep in the skin might die. This may produce areas of firmness within the skin. Additional surgery to remove areas of fat necrosis may be necessary. There is the possibility of contour irregularities in the skin that may result from fat necrosis.

**Surgical Anesthesia** - Both local and general anesthesia involves risk. There is the possibility of complications, injury, and even death from all forms of surgical anesthesia or sedation.

**Shock** - In rare circumstances, your surgical procedure can cause severe trauma, particularly when multiple or extensive procedures are performed. Although serious complications are infrequent, infections or excessive fluid loss can lead to severe illness and even death. If surgical shock occurs, hospitalization and additional treatment would be necessary.

**Pain** - You will experience pain after your surgery. Pain of varying intensity and duration may occur and persist after surgery. If you are a chronic pain patient followed by a Pain Therapy Practitioner, you may be asked to see this practitioner pre operatively to assist you in the management of your pain disorder in the post-operative period. Chronic pain may occur very infrequently from nerves becoming trapped in scar tissue or due to tissue stretching.

There are nerve endings that may become involved with healing scars from surgery. While there may not be a major nerve injury, the small nerve endings during the healing period may become too active producing a painful or oversensitive area due to the small sensory nerve involved with scar tissue. Often, massage and early non-surgical intervention resolves this. It is important to discuss post-surgical pain with your surgeon(s).

**Cardiac and Pulmonary Complications:**

Pulmonary complications may occur secondarily to blood clots (pulmonary emboli), fat deposits (fat emboli), pneumonia, or partial collapse of the lungs after general anesthesia. Pulmonary emboli can be life-threatening or fatal in some circumstances. Inactivity and other conditions may increase the incidence of blood clots traveling to the lungs causing a major blood clot that may result in death. It is important to discuss with your physician any past history of swelling in your legs or blood clots that may contribute to this condition. Cardiac complications are a risk with any surgery and anesthesia, even in patients without symptoms. If you experience shortness of breath, chest pains, or

unusual heart beats, seek medical attention immediately. Should any of these complications occur, you may require hospitalization and additional treatment.

**Venous Thrombosis (Blood Clot)** - Thrombosed veins, which resemble cords, occasionally develop around IV sites, and usually resolve without medical or surgical treatment. A facelift and necklift is not usually associated with an increased risk for Deep Venous Thrombosis (DVT) and Pulmonary Embolus (PE). Often a screening process is conducted to determine if you are at increased risk for DVT or PE. Measures can be taken at the time of your surgery to prevent such events from occurring. It is important to discuss with your surgeon(s) if you or your family have a history of DVT or PE. Certain high estrogen pills, obesity, history of cancer, history of inflammatory bowel disease, etc. may increase your risk of DVT/ PE.

**Allergic Reactions** - In rare cases, local allergies to tape, suture material and glues, blood products, topical preparations or injected agents have been reported. Serious systemic reactions including shock (anaphylaxis) may occur in response to drugs used during surgery and prescription medicines. Allergic reactions may require additional treatment. It is important to notify your physician of any previous allergic reactions.

**Drug Reactions** - Unexpected drug allergies, lack of proper response to medication, or illness caused by the prescribed drug are possibilities. It is important for you to inform your physician of any problems you have had with any medication or allergies to medication, prescribed or over the counter, as well as medications you now regularly take. Provide your surgeon(s) with a list of medications and supplements you are currently taking.

**Surgical Wetting Solutions** - There is the possibility that large volumes of fluid containing dilute local anesthetic drugs and epinephrine that is injected into fatty deposits during surgery may contribute to fluid overload or systemic reaction to these medications. Additional treatment including hospitalization may be necessary.

**Fat/Air Embolism** - In rare cases, fat particles or air can enter the vascular system and can travel to the heart, lungs or brain. This can result in significant complications including tissue loss, blindness, and death.

**Persistent Swelling (Lymphedema)** - Persistent swelling can occur following surgery.

**Unsatisfactory Result** - Although good results are expected, there is no guarantee or warranty expressed or implied, on the results that may be obtained. The body is not symmetric and almost everyone has some degree of unevenness which may not be recognized in advance. One side of the face may be slightly larger, one side of the face droopier. The breast and trunk area exhibits the same possibilities. Many of such issues cannot be fully corrected with surgery. The more realistic your expectations as to results, the better your results will appear to you. Some patients never achieve their desired goals or results, at no fault of the surgeon(s) or surgery. You may be disappointed with the results of surgery. Asymmetry, unanticipated shape and size, loss of function, wound disruption, poor healing, and loss of sensation may occur after surgery. Size may be incorrect. Unsatisfactory surgical scar location or appearance may occur. It may be necessary to perform additional surgery to improve your results. Unsatisfactory results may NOT improve with each additional treatment.

## **ADDITIONAL ADVISORIES**

**Medications and Herbal Dietary Supplements** - There are potential adverse reactions that occur as the result of taking over-the-counter, herbal, and/or prescription medications. Aspirin and medications that contain aspirin interfere with forming blood clots, and therefore may contribute to more bleeding issues. If you have a medical condition (such as heart arrhythmia, heart stent, blood vessels with blockages, or blood clots) and are taking medications to thin your blood and prevent clotting such as Plavix, Warfarin, Coumadin, Xarelto, Effient or Pradaxa, discuss management of these medications around the time of surgery with your plastic surgeon(s). Your plastic surgeon(s) may sometimes coordinate a plan for these medications with the doctor that prescribed them for your medical condition. If you have been prescribed drugs for a medical condition, do not stop them without discussing it first with your plastic surgeon(s). Stopping these medications abruptly may result in a heart attack, stroke, or death. Be sure to check with your physician about any drug interactions that may exist with medications which you are already taking. If you have an adverse reaction, stop the drugs immediately and call your plastic surgeon(s) for further instructions. If the reaction is severe, go immediately to the nearest emergency room.

When taking the prescribed pain medications after surgery, realize that they can affect your thought process and coordination. Do not drive, do not operate complex equipment, do not make any important decisions and do not drink any alcohol while taking these medications. Be sure to take your prescribed medication only as directed.

**Sun Exposure – Direct or Tanning Salon** - The effects of the sun are damaging to the skin. Exposing the treated areas to sun may result in increased scarring, color changes, and poor healing. Patients who tan, either outdoors or in a salon, should inform their surgeon(s) and either delay treatment, or avoid tanning until the surgeon(s) say(s) it is safe to resume. The damaging effect of sun exposure occurs even with the use sun block or clothing coverage.

**Travel Plans** - Any surgery holds the risk of complications that may delay healing and your return to normal life. Please let the surgeon(s) know of any travel plans, important commitments already scheduled or planned, or time demands that are important to you, so that appropriate timing of surgery can occur. There are no guarantees that you will be able to resume all activities in the desired time frame. Allow at least 10-14 days to travel via airplane. Medications may be required should you have a long flight/ trip to prevent DVT/ PE in the immediate post-operative period.

**Long-Term Results** - Subsequent alterations in the appearance of your body may occur as the result of aging, sun exposure, weight loss, weight gain, pregnancy, menopause or other circumstances not related to your surgery.

**Interference with Sentinel Lymph Node Mapping Procedures** - Facelift surgery procedures that involve cutting through lymphatic tissue and can potentially interfere with diagnostic procedures to determine lymph node drainage of the face to stage cancer.

**Body-Piercing** - Individuals who currently wear body-piercing jewelry in the surgical region are advised that an infection could develop from this activity. Body-piercing jewelry should be removed prior to your surgical procedure.

**Nails** - To determine your vitals status during surgery your anesthesia provider may require access to your finger nails for monitoring. Make sure to have at least two finger nails free of nail polish or acrylic nails on the date of your surgery.

**Jewelry** - Jewelry should not be brought with you at the time of your surgical procedure. Items such as earrings, wedding rings, necklaces, etc. should be removed and placed in a safe place. Do not bring your jewelry with you for your surgery.

**Female Patient Information** - It is important to inform your plastic surgeon(s) if you use birth control pills, estrogen replacement, or if you suspect you may be pregnant. Many medications including antibiotics may neutralize the preventive effect of birth control pills, allowing for conception and pregnancy.

**Intimate Relations After Surgery** - Surgery involves coagulating of blood vessels and increased activity of any kind may open these vessels leading to a bleed, or hematoma. Activity that increases your pulse or heart rate may cause additional bruising, swelling, and the need for return to surgery to control bleeding. It is wise to refrain from intimate physical activities until your physician states it is safe.

**Mental Health Disorders and Elective Surgery** - It is important that all patients seeking to undergo elective surgery have realistic expectations that focus on improvement rather than perfection. Complications or less than satisfactory results are sometimes unavoidable, may require additional surgery and often are stressful. Please openly discuss with your surgeon(s), prior to surgery, any history that you may have of significant emotional depression or mental health disorders. Although many individuals may benefit psychologically from the results of elective surgery, effects on mental health cannot be accurately predicted.

**ADDITIONAL SURGERY NECESSARY (Re-Operations)** - There are many variable conditions that may influence the long-term result of surgery. It is unknown how your tissue may respond or how wound healing will occur after surgery. Secondary surgery may be necessary to perform additional tightening or repositioning of body structures. Should complications occur, additional surgery or other treatments may be necessary. Even though risks and complications occur infrequently, the risks cited are associated with this surgery. Other complications and risks can occur but are less common. The practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science. Although good results are expected, there is no guarantee or warranty expressed or implied, on the results that may be obtained. In some situations, it may not be possible to achieve optimal results with a single surgical procedure. You and your surgeon(s) will discuss the options available should additional surgery be advised. There may be additional costs and expenses for such additional procedures, including surgical fees, facility and anesthesia fees, pathology and lab testing.

**PATIENT COMPLIANCE** - Follow all physician instructions carefully; this is essential for the success of your outcome. It is important that the surgical incisions are not subjected to excessive force, swelling, abrasion, or motion during the time of healing. Personal and work activity needs to be restricted. Protective dressings and drains should not be removed unless instructed by your plastic surgeon(s). Successful post-operative function depends on both surgery and subsequent care. Physical activity that increases your pulse or heart rate may cause bruising, swelling, fluid accumulation and the need for return to surgery. It is important that you participate in follow-up care, return for aftercare, and promote your recovery after surgery.



**Smoking, Second-Hand Smoke Exposure, Nicotine Products (Patch, Gum, Nasal Spray) -**

Patients who are currently smoking or use tobacco or nicotine products (patch, gum, or nasal spray) are at a greater risk for significant surgical complications of skin loss and delayed healing and additional scarring. Individuals exposed to second-hand smoke are also at potential risk for similar complications attributable to nicotine exposure. Additionally, smoking may have a significant negative effect on anesthesia and recovery from anesthesia, with coughing and possibly increased bleeding. Individuals who are not exposed to tobacco smoke or nicotine-containing products have a significantly lower risk of these type of complications. Please indicate your current status regarding these items below:

I am a non-smoker and do not use nicotine products. I understand the potential risk of second-hand smoke exposure causing surgical complications.

I am a smoker or use tobacco / nicotine products. I understand the risk of surgical complications due to smoking or use of nicotine products.

I have smoked and stopped approximately \_\_\_\_\_ ago. I understand I may still have the effects and therefore risks from smoking in my system, if not enough time has lapsed.

I have been advised to stop smoking immediately and have been informed of the risks, benefits, expectations and alternatives to my surgery if I continue smoking.

It is important to refrain from smoking at least 6 weeks before surgery and until your physician states it is safe to return, if desired. I acknowledge that I will inform my physician if I continue to smoke within this time frame, and understand that for my safety, the surgery, if possible, may be delayed.

Smoking may have such a negative effect on your surgery that a urine or blood test just before surgery may be done which will prove the presence of Nicotine. If positive, your surgery may be cancelled and your surgery, scheduling fee, and other prepaid amounts may be forfeited. Honestly disclose smoking to your surgeon(s).

**Sleep Apnea / CPAP** - Individuals who have breathing disorders such as “Obstructive Sleep Apnea” and who may rely upon CPAP devices (continuous positive airway pressure) or utilize nighttime oxygen are advised that they are at a substantive risk for respiratory arrest and death when they take narcotic pain medications following surgery. This is an important consideration when evaluating the safety of surgical procedures in terms of very serious complications, including death, that relate to pre-existing medical conditions. Surgery may be considered only with monitoring afterwards in a hospital setting in order to reduce risk of potential respiratory complications and to safely manage pain following surgery.

Please consider the following symptoms of sleep apnea:

I am frequently tired upon waking and throughout the day

I have trouble staying asleep at night

I have been told that I snore or stop breathing during sleep

I wake up throughout the night or constantly turn from side to side

I have been told that my legs or arms jerk while I’m sleeping

I make abrupt snorting noises during sleep

I feel tired or fall asleep during the day

It is important for you to inform and discuss any of the above symptoms that you have experienced with your surgeon(s).

**DVT/PE Risks and Advisory** - There is a risk of blood clots, Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) and Pulmonary Embolus (PE) with every surgical procedure. It varies with the risk factors below. The higher the risk factors, the greater the risk and the more involved you must be in both understanding these risks and, when permitted by your physician, walking and moving your legs. There may also be leg stockings, squeezing active leg devices, and possibly medicines to help lower your risk.

There are many conditions that may increase or affect risks of clotting. Inform your doctor about any past or present history of any of the following:

Past History of Blood Clots

Family History of Blood Clots

Birth Control Pills

Hormone Stimulating Drugs

Swollen Legs

History of Cancer

Varicose Veins

History of Multiple Spontaneous Abortions or Miscarriages

I understand the risks relating to DVT/PE and how important it is to comply with therapy as discussed with my surgeon(s). The methods of preventative therapy include:

Early ambulation when allowed

Compression devices (SCD/ICD)

Anticoagulation Protocols when Allowed

For high risk patients, the risks of VTE are still high, even in the setting of appropriate chemoprophylaxis. If your surgery is elective and you're a high risk patient, it's best to consider with not proceeding with such elective surgery.

### **DISCLAIMER**

Informed-consent documents are used to communicate information about the proposed surgical treatment of a disease or condition along with disclosure of risks and alternative forms of treatment(s), including no surgery. The informed-consent process attempts to define principles of risk disclosure that should generally meet the needs of most patients in most circumstances. However, informed-consent documents should not be considered all-inclusive in defining other methods of care and risks encountered. Your plastic surgeon(s) may provide you with additional or different information which is based on all the facts in your particular case and the current state of medical knowledge. Informed-consent documents are not intended to define or serve as the standard of medical care. Standards of medical care are determined on the basis of all of the facts involved in an individual case and are subject to change as scientific knowledge and technology advance and as practice patterns evolve.

**It is important that you read the above information carefully and have all of your questions answered before signing the consent on the next page.**

**CONSENT FOR SURGERY/ PROCEDURE OR TREATMENT**

1. I hereby authorize Dr. Karol Gutowski and/or Dr. Julia Kerolus and such assistants as may be selected to perform the following procedure or treatment:

Facelift and/or Necklift

I have received the following information sheet:

**INFORMED-CONSENT FOR FACELIFT AND NECKLIFT SURGERY**

- 2. I recognize that during the course of the operation and medical treatment or anesthesia, unforeseen conditions may necessitate different procedures than those above. I therefore authorize the above physician(s) and assistants or designees to perform such other procedures that are in the exercise of his or her professional judgment necessary and desirable. The authority granted under this paragraph shall include all conditions that require treatment and are not known to my physician(s) at the time the procedure is begun.
- 3. I consent to the administration of such anesthetics considered necessary or advisable. I understand that all forms of anesthesia involves risk and the possibility of complications, injury, and sometimes death.
- 4. I acknowledge that no guarantee has been given by anyone as to the results that may be obtained.
- 5. I consent to the photographing or televising of the operation(s) or procedure(s) to be performed, including appropriate portions of my body, for medical, scientific or educational purposes, provided my identity is not revealed by the pictures.
- 6. For purposes of advancing medical education, I consent to the admittance of observers to the operating room.
- 7. I consent to the disposal of any tissue, medical devices or body parts which may be removed.
- 8. I authorize the release of my Social Security number to appropriate agencies for legal reporting and medical-device registration, if applicable.
- 9. IT HAS BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME IN A WAY THAT I UNDERSTAND:
  - a. THE ABOVE TREATMENT OR PROCEDURE TO BE UNDERTAKEN
  - b. THERE MAY BE ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES OR METHODS OF TREATMENT
  - c. THERE ARE RISKS TO THE PROCEDURE OR TREATMENT PROPOSED

I CONSENT TO THE TREATMENT OR PROCEDURE AND THE ABOVE LISTED ITEMS (1-9).

I AM SATISFIED WITH THE EXPLANATION.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient or Person Authorized to Sign for Patient

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Witness \_\_\_\_\_

***INFORMED-CONSENT-FACELIFT & NECKLIFT SURGERY – Continued***

**AUTHORIZATION & CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF MEDICAL IMAGES**

It is important that you read this information carefully and completely. After reviewing, please sign the consent as proposed by Dr. Gutowski and/or Dr. Kerolus or their representatives.

**INTRODUCTION**

Medical images (photographs, slides, videos, interviews or any other images of you, or components of your medical record) may be taken before, during, or after a surgical procedure or treatment. These images may be needed to document your medical condition, used as supporting material for authorizing medical coverage and payments, and treatment planning. Consent is required to take, use and release such images. Since Drs. Gutowski and Kerolus are also educators of other physicians, researchers, and medical writers, your images may be used for other purposes as described below.

**1. CONSENT TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS, SLIDES, DIGITAL IMAGES, AND VIDEOTAPES**

I hereby authorize Dr. Gutowski or Dr. Kerolus and/or their associates to take any images before, during and after my treatments or surgeries.

**2. CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF PHOTOGRAPHS/SLIDES/VIDEOTAPES**

I hereby authorize Dr. Gutowski and/or Dr. Kerolus and their associates to use any of these images for professional medical purposes deemed appropriate including but not limited to showing these images on public or commercial television, electronic digital networks including the internet, print or visual or broadcast media, for purposes of examination, testing, credentialing and/or certifying purposes for purposes of medical education, patient education, lay publication, or during lectures to medical or lay groups, for marketing and advertising, and for use in supporting documentation for insurance or third-party payer purposes, medical teaching, research or dissemination of medical information to medical and nonmedical audiences, including, but not limited to, journal or book publications, presentations, conferences, and print marketing material (magazine, newspaper, etc) or electronic media (television, internet, etc).

**3. CONSENT FOR RELEASE TO PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

I further authorize Dr. Gutowski and/or Dr. Kerolus and their associated to release such images to the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS), the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS), the American Board of Plastic Surgery (ABPS), the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (AAFPRS), and the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ABFPRS). I provide this authorization as a voluntary contribution in the interests of public education. The images may be used for publication in print, visual or electronic media, specifically including, but not limited to, medical journals (such as *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*, *Annals of Plastic Surgery*, *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*), textbooks, lay publications, patient education or during lectures for the purpose of informing the medical profession or the general public about plastic surgery methods, medical education or examination material by ASPS, ASAPS, ABPS, AAFPRS and ABFPRS. I understand that such images shall become the property of ASPS, ASAPS, ABPS, AAFPRS and ABFPRS and may be retained or released by these organizations for the limited purpose mentioned above. I also grant permission for the use of any of my medical records including illustrations, photographs, video or other imaging records created in my case, for use in examination, certifying and/or re-certifying purposes by ABPS and ABFPRS.

I understand that I will not be identified by name in any release of these materials but in some cases the images may contain features that may make my identity recognizable. I release and discharge Dr. Gutowski and/or Dr. Kerolus and all parties acting on their authority from all rights that I may have in these images, and from any claims that I have related their use in the above mentioned manner.

I also release Dr. Gutowski and/or Dr. Kerolus and any employees or agents from all liability, including any claims of libel or invasion or privacy, directly or indirectly connected with, arising out of or resulting from the taking and authorized use of these images or recorded interviews.

I understand that I have the right to request cessation of recording or filming at any time.

I understand that I will not be entitled to monetary payment or any other consideration as a result of any use of these images and /or my interview.

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness or Guardian/Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_