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**Plastic and Cosmetic Surgery**

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## **EAR SURGERY (OTOPLASTY)**

### **WHAT IS AN OTOPLASTY?**

This surgical procedure is used to reduce large or protruding ears. This procedure sets the ears back closer to the head and may involve molding, shaping and/or removing cartilage to pull the ears in, and reduce the protrusion. This procedure will not affect your hearing. It involves only the outer ear, not the middle or inner ear where hearing takes place. As a certified Plastic Surgeon Dr. Anzarut has trained in the art and science of aesthetic ear surgery. Dr. Anzarut research on aesthetic ear surgery has been published in the prestigious journal of Craniofacial Surgery.

*Teaching ear reconstruction using an alloplastic carving model. Murabit A, Anzarut A, Kasrai L, Fisher D, Wilkes G. Journal of Craniofacial Surgery. 2010 Nov;21(6):1719-21*

### **WHO IS A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR AN OTOPLASTY?**

Candidates must be in good health, have no active diseases or serious, pre-existing medical conditions, and must have realistic expectations of the outcome of the surgery. Otoplasty can be performed at any age after the ears have reached (or nearly reached) their adult size. This usually occurs at around 5 to 6 years of age. Most procedures are performed for aesthetic reasons.

### **HOW IS THE PROCEDURE PERFORMED?**

An incision is made within the ear. Dr. Anzarut may then remove cartilage or alter the cartilage shape to improve the appearance of the ear. Often, the incisions and the resulting scars are well concealed on the back of the ear.

## **PLANNING FOR YOUR SURGERY**

First, schedule a personal consultation with Dr. Anzarut. Communication is vital in reaching your goals. You will have the opportunity to discuss your goals and the results you'd like to achieve. Dr. Anzarut will work with you to reach an understanding about what you can expect from this procedure and what long-term benefits you will experience. Every patient is different, and Dr. Anzarut will choose the surgical technique and treatment plan that is right for you. During your initial consultation:

- Provide a complete medical history. Include information about any previous surgical procedures; past and present medical conditions; and all medications or herbal supplements you are taking.
- Your surgeon will examine the structure of both ears. Even if only one ear needs correction, surgery may still be recommended on both ears to achieve a natural, symmetrical appearance.
- Be prepared to discuss possible risks and complications of the procedure.

## **PREPARING FOR YOUR SURGERY**

You will be given specific instructions on how to prepare for your surgery. Dr. Anzarut and his surgical team will instruct you on how to prepare for surgery, including guidelines on eating and drinking, smoking, and which vitamins and medications should be taken or avoided. You should arrange for someone to drive you home after your surgery, whether your surgery is done on an outpatient or inpatient basis. You may also want to make arrangements for someone to help you out for a day or two after you leave the hospital.

## **TYPES OF ANESTHESIA**

Either local anesthesia or general anesthetic is used so that you will remain comfortable throughout the procedure.