

ENTROPION

Entropion is a condition in which the lower eyelid turns inward, rubbing against the eye. Entropion occurs most commonly as a result of aging. Infection and scarring inside the eyelid are other causes of entropion. When the eyelid turns inward, the eyelashes and skin rub against the eye, making it red, irritated and sensitive to light and wind.

Over time, many people develop excess eyelid skin. Eyelid skin is the thinnest skin of the body, so it is more likely to stretch. In the upper eyelid, this stretched skin may limit the field of vision, and may produce a feeling of heaviness and a tired appearance. In the lower eyelid, "bags" form.

The excess skin in the upper eyelids can be removed surgically to improve the field of vision and other symptoms. Removal of the excess skin in either the upper or lower eyelids may improve appearance. If any fatty tissue is present, it may be removed at the same time.

SYMPTOMS

- Sagging skin around the eyes
- Redness and pain of the eye
- Sensitivity to light and wind

The symptoms described above may not necessarily mean that you have entropion. However, if you experience one or more of these symptoms, contact your eye doctor for a complete exam.

TREATMENT

If entropion is not treated, an eye ulcer may form. With surgery, the eyelid can be turned outward to its normal position, protecting the eye and improving these symptoms.