

The Composite Facelift

DR WONG CHIN HO learnt the "composite facelift" procedure from his mentor, Dr Bryan Mendelson from Melbourne, Australia, and also did a travelling fellowship in the US under a scholarship from the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS), focusing on facelifts.

What makes this a breakthrough treatment?

The composite facelift is different from a traditional skin facelift in that, rather than performing a superficial tightening, lifting is achieved by tightening the support layer of the face, called the SMAS, or superficial musculoaponeurotic system. Surgery is performed at a deeper level, and so the composite facelift is also called the deep plane facelift. Because tightening occurs directly on the support layer of the face, the result is lasting and natural, without any of the telltale signs of the traditional skin-tightening facelift.

What does it do?

It addresses facial sagging caused by ageing, such as droopy cheeks, jowls, marionette lines (vertical wrinkles, often on the cheeks) and laxity of the neck. The procedure is usually indicated for patients above 40 years of age.

How does it work?

It is generally done under general anaesthesia, with a one-night stay in the hospital. A light dressing is placed over the neck and in front of the ears for the first day, and then a light compression is applied to the area for about a week. Stitches are removed after about seven days. and you can expect a downtime of two to three weeks before returning to social engagements. Costs range from \$22,000 to \$28,000.

Why should I try it?

For yourself. The modern facelift is not merely about looking younger. Well performed, it should leave you feeling more confident and bring back the sense of wellbeing that ageing has taken away.

W Aesthetic Plastic Surgery #08-42. Mount Elizabeth Novena Specialist Center 38 Irrawaddy Road 6570 2528 | waesthetics.com