

# Dermatochalasis

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This material will help you understand dermatochalasis and how it is treated.

## **What is dermatochalasis?**

Dermatochalasis occurs when gravity stretches the skin down on the upper or lower eyelid. It may look like you have bags under your eyes or on the upper eyelids.

## **What causes dermatochalasis?**

Dermatochalasis is caused by a loss of elasticity in the tissue supporting the eyelid. The loss of elasticity leads to stretching of the skin around your eyelid. It can make it look like you have extra eyelid skin. This stretched out skin can block your vision. It is much more common in those over 40, as it is something that happens as people get older.

## **How is dermatochalasis treated?**

If your dermatochalasis causes vision problems, your eye doctor may perform surgery on your eyelid to remove the extra skin. This surgery is called blepharoplasty. Blepharoplasty surgery may also be done for cosmetic reasons.

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