

Eyes by Thermage™



## Eyes by Thermage™

Wrinkles of the upper eyelid and the skin around the eyes, is a very ageing feature in the face. As most people look in your eyes as they speak to you, the way the eyes look speaks volumes about you, your age and your health.

As we age, the skin of the upper eyelid loses elasticity and becomes baggier and more wrinkly. This, associated with volume loss around the upper face, leads to crows feet and wrinkles in the skin just above and below the eyelids.

### What treatments are available?

Although commercially available creams claim to reduce wrinkles, they actually have very little effect except on the most superficial layer of the skin and therefore make minimal difference.

Traditionally, although crows feet can be treated with Botulinum toxin, the wrinkles and loose skin of the upper eyelid and of the skin around the eyelids are usually treated by surgery - an operation called blepharoplasty.

**Thermage™ is a procedure that is truly “walk-in walk-out”. There is no bruising, swelling or scarring.**

Recently, a non-invasive (non-surgical) treatment has been developed by a company called Thermage™. They claim to be the only company with a skin tightening procedure that can be used on the upper eyelid itself. Although certain laser companies can treat skin around the eyes, they steer clear of the delicate skin of the upper eyelid.

## What is Thermage™ treatment of the eyelids?

Thermage™ is a radio-frequency skin tightening technique. A treatment tip is placed on the skin and then passes a radio-frequency electric current into the upper layers of the skin and dermis causing collagen contraction. This causes the skin to tighten and become smoother.

Of course the upper eyelid is a very delicate structure, so when this procedure is performed on the upper eyelid, an ocular shield is placed over the eyeball and under the eyelid. Although this sounds unpleasant, with local anaesthetic eyedrops and special antibacterial lubrication, the procedure causes relatively minor discomfort.

The eyelid is treated with one very fine treatment tip, and the skin surrounding the eye is treated with a second, larger treatment tip.

### How long does the treatment take?

The whole treatment takes about one hour.

### How long is recovery?

This is a procedure that is truly “walk-in walk-out”. There is no bruising, swelling or scarring. Make-up can be applied immediately post-treatment and normal work can be resumed immediately. Rarely, the ocular shield can cause irritation, giving a feeling of “something in the eye” which can cause redness and itching for a couple of hours post treatment.



## Are there any contraindications to having eyes by Thermage™?

Because an ocular shield has to be inserted, we do not treat anybody who has had previous surgery to their eye (such as cataract or corrective laser eye surgery) unless they can produce a letter from their eye specialist saying that they have recovered sufficiently to allow insertion of an ocular shield.

As Thermage™ uses radio-frequency electric current, we would not use this on anyone who has a pacemaker. Obviously, we would also not perform this on anyone who is pregnant. However apart from these, there are no absolute complications stopping anyone having the procedure.

## What results can I expect?

As with most non-surgical treatments, Eyes by Thermage™ produces a significant improvement in most people, although not as dramatic as surgery. However, unlike surgery, there are no cuts across the skin, no scars and therefore much less risk of complications.

Realistic expectations really relate to a “fresh eye” look. There is usually a reduction in the crepiness of the skin, a reduction in the hooding and often a reduction of the under eye bags. Lines in the crow’s feet area of the eyes are also softened.

Eyes by Thermage™ produces a pleasing result in over 80% of people who have been asked, six months after treatment. Of course if further tightening is required, the procedure can easily be repeated causing further collagen contraction and skin tightening in the future.

If you would like to know more about Thermage™ at Absolute Aesthetics, please look at the website:

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