



Wasatch View Eye Care

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## **Dermatochalasis**

### **Overview**

Dermatochalasis is excess and loose skin on the eyelid and around the eye. It is most commonly seen in middle age and the elderly. The incidence is also higher with a history of facial injury or surgery, higher body mass index, smoking and sun exposure. Most commonly it affects the upper eyelids, but can also be seen on the lower eyelid. In most situations dermatochalasis is cosmetic, but in more dramatic presentations it can block the individual's upper peripheral visual field. A blepharoplasty by an oculoplastic surgeon is the best treatment option. In cosmetic cases it's rarely covered by insurance, however, with documentation that it blocks part of the upper visual field it may be covered.



### **Signs & Symptoms**

Signs and symptoms of dermatochalasis include a saggy look to the eyelids, obstruction of the upper visual field in the affected eye and heaviness of the lids.

### **Causes**

Dermatochalasis is the result of the aging of our skin. Our skin loses its elasticity and this leads to redundancy. As this progresses it can droop down over the eye itself.

### **Evaluation**

Dermatochalasis is evaluated with external photography and peripheral vision testing when the eyelid is not taped and when it is taped.

### **Management**

Dermatochalasis is treated with a blepharoplasty. In this surgical procedure performed by an oculoplastic surgeon excess skin is removed. The incision is in the crease of the eyelid to hide any potential scarring.



### **Websites**

All About Vision:

[https://www.allaboutvision.com/conditions/dermatochalasis/#:~:text=Der](https://www.allaboutvision.com/conditions/dermatochalasis/#:~:text=Dermatochalasis%20is%20a%20medical%20condition,time%2C%20it%20gradually%20loses%20elasticity.)  
[matochalasis%20is%20a%20](https://www.allaboutvision.com/conditions/dermatochalasis/#:~:text=Der)  
[medical%20condition,time%2C%20it%20gradually%20loses%20elasticity.](https://www.allaboutvision.com/conditions/dermatochalasis/#:~:text=Der)

Optometrist.org:

<https://www.optometrists.org/general-practice-optometry/guide-to-eye-conditions/dry-eye/eyelid-conditions/>