

Eligibility criteria for blepharoplasty and ptosis surgery

Southern Cross will only reimburse the cost of blepharoplasty and ptosis surgery under a member's policy when the following criteria are met for that member.

Blepharoplasty

For blepharoplasty, criteria **1, 2, 3 and 4** below must be met.

1. At least **one** of the following must be present:
 - a roll of upper eyelid skin hangs over the tips of some or all of the upper lid lashes
 - a roll of upper eyelid skin rests on the lashes deflecting the lashes downwards from the lid margin.
2. Visual field assessment undertaken on a central 76 point screening visual field test demonstrates visual field loss in the superior visual field of seven or more missed points.

Each of the missed points must be, at least **one** of the following:

- in the superior third of the visual field (ie the 10 test points above the 20 degree meridian), or
 - adjacent to a missed points in the superior third of the visual field (ie the 10 test points above the 20 degree meridian).
3. The visual field test result is reasonably explained by the presence of dermatochalasis.
 4. Photographs of both front and side views of the open eyes are taken prior to surgery. These must be retained for audit purposes, along with a copy of the qualifying visual field test.

Ptosis surgery

For ptosis surgery the following must be met:

- the lid drop is 3 mm or more over the cornea (the normal position of the upper lid is 1 mm down over the cornea).

For bilateral ptosis surgery the following criteria must be met:

- the lid drop is 3 mm or more over the cornea (the normal position of the upper lid is 1 mm down over the cornea)
- a photograph of front and side views must be taken prior to surgery and retained.

Note: Brow lift procedures are an exclusion under Southern Cross policies.