

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. A clinically validated objective visual field assessment covering 30 degrees from fixation that demonstrates visual field loss, showing at least 70% of the points above 20 degrees are affected.
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 view must be taken prior to surgery and retained.

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

(Continued on the following page)

Please also ensure you are familiar with all **policy exclusions**, including:

- Acute care
- Congenital conditions
- Cosmetic treatment/procedures
- Health screening
- Treatment of any condition not detrimental to health
- Unapproved healthcare services.

Refer to the relevant policy document for specific conditions and exceptions that apply to these exclusions.