## Modified Levator Advancement Ptosis Technique

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A preferred technique for the repair of ptosis is a modification of a levator advancement technique.

In this modified technique, 1–2 cc of a 50:50 mixture of 2 % xylocaine with 1:100:000 epinephrine and 0.25 % Marcaine with 1:200:000 epinephrine, sodium bicarbonate, and hyaluronidase is injected into the area of the lateral aspect of the upper eyelid. A "digital diffusion" technique is used to wipe the local solution across the eyelid. The patient is then prepped, draped, and marked in the usual sterile fashion. A blepharoplasty is performed if needed, after which the levator aponeurosis is reflected from its insertion from underlying tarsus and Müller's muscle. The aponeurosis is elevated by incising the orbicularis directly over the inferior one third of tarsus. The orbicularis, levator complex is elevated from its insertion onto tarsus as the surgical space is entered. The aponeurosis orbicularis complex is then dissected from underlying Müller's muscle. The aponeurosis can be swept off Müller's in this natural anatomic space. Müller's muscle can be

identified by its vascularity. The peripheral vascular arcade can often be identified superior to the superior tarsal margin. Two or three doublearmed 5-0 or 6-0 Vicryl sutures on an S-14, S-24, or SS-2 spatulated semicircle needle are then placed in a lamellar fashion through tarsus. These sutures are placed in the midline as well as medially and occasionally laterally. There is a "sweet spot" just medial to the midline that provides for an optimal eyelid configuration. Once positioned, the sutures are placed in a mattress fashion through the levator aponeurosis superior to the area of relative thinning. Place the central suture first. If the height and contour of the eyelid is appropriate, additional sutures may not be needed. All the double-armed sutures are then held with a snap and tied and cut. The orbital septum may be incised to avoid lagophthalmos as needed. Often, weakening of the septum just superior to the sutures placed may be sufficient. The advanced aponeurosis may or may not be trimmed. The skin is then closed in the usual fashion.

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