



in the spotlight

I don't like my ears

Commonly, people with prominent ears are very self-conscious about how far they "stick out" from the side of the head, the size of the actual ears or their overall shape. It is a life-long issue for affected individuals and becomes a source of social embarrassment in some.

There is a wide range of normal when it comes to ear size and shape. The ears really should ideally blend into the background and not become a focus of attention when others are looking at us.

Recent studies suggest that the ear reaches up to 90 percent of adult size by six years of age. There is some elongation that occurs with time and loss of elasticity, much the same way as we lose tone in our face over time.

Often, babies are born with protruding ears. Simple taping of the ears may be all that is required to bring them into a more natural position. Otherwise, there are fairly simple procedures to position protruding ears closer to the head or reshape ears without normal curvature.

We often prefer to perform otoplasty (or reshaping of the ears) prior to children entering first grade to avoid the teasing some children may unfortunately experience in grade school. However, this surgery can be performed at any age. It is an outpatient procedure that may be done under local anesthesia in adults or general anesthesia in children or adults who prefer not to be awake during surgery. Generally, a supporting dressing is worn for one week after surgery and an elastic head band for a month afterward at night and during strenuous activities. The procedure is not generally painful and is well-tolerated by adults and children alike.

For articles authored by Dr. Ducic, including a publication on Otoplasty, as well as more information of ear reshaping surgery, please visit www.drducic.com.

For a personalized evaluation, we invite you to visit Dr. Yadro Ducic M.D., FRCS(C) FACS for a consultation at the Center for Aesthetic Surgery in Colleyville (817-503-2442) or at Otolaryngology and Facial Plastic Surgery Associates in Fort Worth (817-920-0484). 

Dr Ducic is Board Certified in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. He has published over 120 articles and book chapters and has lectured extensively at universities both in the USA and abroad. He is the director of a fellowship in Facial Plastic Surgery, one of only a handful in the southwest and the only one in the metroplex. He is also a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Texas

Southwestern Medical Center and is involved in training the specialists of tomorrow. Please feel free to visit his web site at www.drducic.com or call 817.503.2442 for an appointment in the midcities location or 817.920.0484 for an appointment in the downtown fort worth location. We look forward to your visiting with us.



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