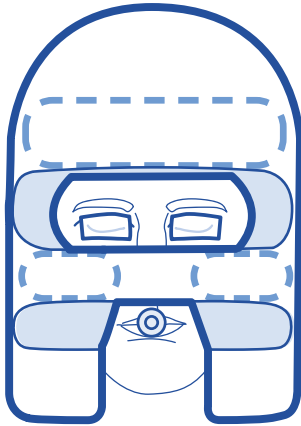




# The Forehead & Cheeks



See the instructional video  
at [www.care-surgical.com](http://www.care-surgical.com)

## Possible problems

- + Pressure ulcers
- + Facial edema

## Possible causes

- + Inadequate blood supply due to prolonged excessive pressure
- + Shear, affecting the blood flow to the forehead or cheeks
- + Friction injury due to a period of continuous movement
- + Patient incorrectly positioned in the face support
- + High risk patient (includes the elderly, diabetics, smokers and those taking certain medications, eg steroids)

## Reduce the risk

- + Ensure the patient's face is supported on the bony part of their cheeks, not the soft tissue
- + Ensure the patient's eyebrows are clearly visible
- + The face support must not encroach into the periorbital area above or below the eye
- + Recheck the head support after turning the patient and at least every 30 minutes throughout the procedure
- + It may be necessary to lift and replace the patient's face during long procedures or if there has been movement

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