According to the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, eyelid surgery, or blepharoplasty, ranked among the top five facial cosmetic surgical procedures in the United States in 2010. While eyelid surgery is common, many people may not be aware of what makes a good candidate for the procedure.

Dean Toriumi, MD, the current head of the Division of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Illinois at Chicago, specializes in blepharoplasty, rhinoplasty, and rhytidectomy, among other procedures. No matter the procedure, Dr. Toriumi takes great care when contouring a patient’s face or nose. Here, he provides a list of questions that individuals should ask themselves and their physicians when considering undergoing eyelid surgery.

Questions patients should address themselves:
- Do I have excess skin in my upper eyelids and underneath my eyes?
- Other than aesthetics, do I have any other eye conditions, such as “dry eye”?
- Besides the surgery, am I prepared for the pre-operative and post-operative process?

Questions patients should address to a physician:
- What does the actual surgery entail?
- How long is the recovery period, and how long must I wait after surgery to resume my normal activities?
- What, if any, is the follow-up protocol?