General Information About the Lip Lift
A lip lift procedure can shorten a long upper lip and provide an overall appearance of greater fullness. Different techniques may be used which may include the bullhorn lip-lift, the vermilion lift and the V-Y lip augmentation.

The bullhorn lip lift, or subnasal lip lift as it is also called, is one of the more common lip lift methods used. During the procedure, a bullhorn-shaped piece of tissue is removed from underneath the nose. As the incision is closed, a slight lift in the upper lip is created. In essence, this technique shortens the distance between the bottom of the nose and the top of the upper lip.

The vermilion lift, also referred to as the gull wing lip lift or sometimes the direct lip lift, involves the removal of tissue directly from the upper lip line that creates a slight raise of the upper lip.

The V-Y lip augmentation uses a lip advancement technique in which small V-shaped incisions are made on the inside of the lip. These V-shaped wedges are then moved forward and closed to create a Y-shape. This pushes the tissue from the inside of the mouth upward and outward to create the appearance of greater fullness.

How Do I Begin?
The first step in the lip lift process is setting up a personal consultation with Dr. Stevens.

During your consultation, the doctor will discuss your specific cosmetic goals and assess your physical and emotional health. Dr. Stevens will detail the various options for a lip lift as well as the likely outcomes of surgery. Potential risks, complications and your health history will also be discussed at this time and any questions that you may have will be addressed.

Based upon your individual case, Dr. Stevens will develop and recommend a specific course of treatment for you.

Health Considerations
It is important that you inform Dr. Stevens of your current and past health conditions. This should include the following: previous surgical procedures; current medications; the use of vitamins, herbal supplements, nutritional supplements, alcohol, tobacco, and drugs; and any medical conditions that you may have such as cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, circulatory disorders, or diabetes.

The risks associated with the lip lift may include loss of sensation, infection, scarring, and blood clots.

Other Procedures to Consider
If you are considering another procedure, some patients do chin augmentation in conjunction with a lip lift. Chin augmentation can help reshape the face and provide a harmonious balance to your facial features. Make sure to ask Dr. Stevens for recommendations if you’re considering doing more than one procedure.