Rhinoplasty

Instructions
This is an informed consent document that has been prepared to inform you concerning rhinoplasty surgery, its risks and alternative treatments.

Please read this information carefully and completely. Initial each page, indicating that you have read the page.

Introduction
Rhinoplasty surgery to correct the shape or function of the nose is an operation frequently performed by plastic surgeons. It can reduce or increase the size and shape of the nose, change the shape of the tip, narrow the width of the nostrils or change the angle between the nose and the upper lip. It is done to correct birth defects, repair nasal injuries and help relieve some breathing problems.

There is no one type of rhinoplasty that meets the needs of every patient. Rhinoplasty surgery is customized for each patient, depending on their needs. Incisions may be made within the nose or concealed in inconspicuous locations externally. Surgery to improve nasal breathing can be performed at the time of rhinoplasty.

The best candidates for this type of surgery are individuals who are looking for improvement in the appearance of their nose with realistic expectations, good health and psychological stability. Rhinoplasty can be performed in conjunction with other surgeries.

Alternative Treatments
Seldom is rhinoplasty absolutely necessary and therefore, not having surgery is an option. Certain internal nasal airway disorders may not require surgery.

Risks of Abdominoplasty Surgery
With any type of activity there is inherent risk. The individual’s choice to undergo a surgical procedure is based on the comparison of the risk to potential benefit. Although the majority of patients do not experience complications, you should understand the risks, potential complications and consequences of rhinoplasty.

Bleeding – It is possible, though unusual, that you have problems with bleeding during or after surgery. Should post-operative bleeding occur, it may require surgical treatment to stop the bleeding. Do not take any aspirin or anti-inflammatory medications for ten days before surgery, as this contributes to greater risk of bleeding. Hypertension (high blood pressure) that is not under good medical control may cause bleeding during or after surgery and may require postponing surgery to allow control. Accumulations of blood under the skin may delay healing and cause scarring.

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Infection – Infection is unusual after rhinoplasty. Should an infection occur, additional treatment including antibiotics or additional surgery may be necessary.

Scarring – Although satisfactory wound healing after surgical procedure is expected, abnormal scarring may occur both within the skin and the deeper tissues. Scars may be unattractive in contour or color related to the surrounding skin. There is the possibility of visible marks and sutures used to close the wound after the removal of skin lesions and tumors. Additional treatments including surgery may be needed to treat scarring.

Damage to deeper structures – Deeper structures such as nerves, blood vessels and muscles may be damaged during the course of surgery. The potential for this to occur varies with the type of nasal procedure performed. Injury to deeper structures may be temporary or permanent.

Unsatisfactory result – There is the possibility of an unsatisfactory result from rhinoplasty. The surgery may result in acceptable visible or tactile deformities, loss of function, or structural malposition. You may be disappointed in the results of rhinoplasty if the results do not meet your expectations. Additional surgery may be necessary should the result of rhinoplasty be unsatisfactory.

Numbness – There is a potential for permanent numbness within the nasal skin after rhinoplasty. The occurrence of this is not predictable. Diminished or absent skin sensation in the nasal area may not totally resolve after rhinoplasty.

Asymmetry – The human face in normally asymmetrical. There can be variation from one side to the other in the results obtained from a rhinoplasty procedure.

Chronic pain – Chronic pain may occur very infrequently after rhinoplasty.

Skin disorders/skin cancer – Rhinoplasty is a surgical procedure to reshape the internal and external structure of the nose. Skin disorders and skin cancer occur independently of a rhinoplasty.

Allergic reactions – In rare cases, local allergies to tape, suture material or topical preparations may occur. Systemic reactions which may be more serious can occur related to drugs using during surgery or prescription medicines. Allergies reactions may require additional treatment.

Delayed healing – Wound disruption or delayed wound healing is possible. Some areas of the face may not heal normally or may take longer time to heal. Areas of skin may die. This may require frequent dressing changes or further surgery to remove the non-healed tissue.

Long term effects – Subsequent alterations in nasal appearance may occur as the result of aging, sun exposure or other circumstances not related to a rhinoplasty. Future surgery or other treatments may be necessary to maintain the results of a rhinoplasty operation.

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Nasal septal perforation – There is the possibility that surgery will cause a hole in the nasal septum to develop. The occurrence of this is rare. If it occurs, additional surgical treatment may be necessary to repair the hole in the nasal septum. In some cases, it may be impossible to correct this complication.

Nasal airway alterations – Changes may occur after a rhinoplasty or septoplasty operation that may interfere with normal passage of air through the nose. This may require additional surgery to correct.

Surgical anesthesia – Both local and general anesthesia involve risk. There is the possibility of complication, injury and even death from all forms of surgical anesthesia or sedation.

Health Insurance
Most health insurance companies exclude coverage for cosmetic surgical operations or any complications that may occur from cosmetic surgery. If the procedure corrects a breathing problem or marked deformity after nasal trauma, a portion may be covered.

Additional Surgery
There are many variables that may influence the long term result from rhinoplasty surgery. Should complications occur, additional surgery or other treatments may be necessary. The practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science. Although good results are expected, there is no guarantee or warranty expressed or implied, as to the results that may be obtained.

Financial Responsibilities
The cost of surgery involves several charges for the services provided. The total includes fees charged by your doctor, anesthesia and surgical facility charges. Even if part of the cost of surgery is covered by an insurance plan, you will be responsible for necessary co-payments, deductibles and charges not covered. Additional cost may occur should complications develop form the surgery and charges involved with revisionary surgery could also be your responsibility.

Disclaimer
Patient information documents are used to communicate information about the proposed surgical treatment of diseased or condition along with disclosure of risks and alternative forms of treatment(s). The patient information process attempts to define principles or risk disclosure that should generally meet the needs of most patients in most circumstances.

However, patient information documents should not be considered all inclusive in defining other methods or care and risks encountered. Your plastic surgeon may provide you with additional or different information which is based on all the facts in your particular case the state of medical knowledge.

Patient information documents are not intended to define or serve as the standard of medical care. Standards of medical care are determined on the basis of all the facts involved in an individual case are subject to change as scientific knowledge and technology advanced and as practice patterns evolve.

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