



Information for Rhinoplasty

These explanations are intended to improve your understanding of the procedures that Dr Shahidi has discussed with you. Please read them carefully and understand that this list includes many, but not all of the different variations and possible outcomes from surgery. Please feel free to ask any questions regarding your planned surgery.

Alternatives:

The alternative to rhinoplasty is no surgery at all. Alternatives to internal nasal surgery to improve breathing are medicines or nasal sprays.

Goals:

The goals of rhinoplasty are numerous and may include removal of a prominent hump, reduction of the nasal tip, narrowing of the nasal base, and/or elevation of the nasal tip. This operation can change the shape of the tip, reduce or increase the size of the nose or narrow the width of the nostrils. This can be done alone or in conjunction with internal septoplasty - a procedure to improve nasal airway problems. Often improvements to breathing involve reducing turbinates as well. Occasionally supporting the collapsed nasal valve is necessary.

Limitations:

Limitations include: thick oily nasal skin, severe external curvature of the nose, excessively bulbous tip, prominent nasal root, severe deformity, nostril asymmetry, and/or scarring from previous surgery or injury and very soft almost infantile tip cartilages and thick spongy skin.

Expected Outcome:

Expected outcome includes the following: swelling, bruising, mild bloody drainage post-operatively, some pain, nasal blockage due to internal swelling or packing, temporary numbness or firmness of the nasal tip or upper lip and upper teeth, palpable (and sometimes visible) subtle ridges or bumps of the nasal ridge, and/or a fine scar if an external incision has been planned. Temporary changes in nasal airflow are expected.

Long Term Effects:

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

Risks:

Complications are rare in occurrence and may include: bleeding, asymmetry, visible deformities, infection, septal perforation, rejection of any graft material, and/or scarring. Visible ridges or bumps may require revision surgery. Invisible tactile ridges or bumps do not require further surgery. Nasal obstruction may occur secondary to swollen turbinates, recurrence of the septal deviation, or collapsed nasal valves or nostrils. Further surgery may be needed.