



Information for Septal Reconstruction

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 septal surgery is no surgery at all. Alternatives to improve breathing are medicines or nasal sprays.

Goals:

The goals of septal surgery are to improve nasal breathing. Often improvements to breathing involve reducing turbinates as well. Occasionally supporting the collapsed nasal valve is necessary.

Limitations:

The aim is improvement. Perfection is desirable but not always achievable.

Expected Outcome:

Expected outcome includes the following: mild blood drainage post-operatively, minimal pain, nasal blockage due to internal swelling or packing, temporary numbness or firmness of the nasal tip or upper lip and upper teeth. Temporary changes in nasal airflow are expected. Nasal sprays will be needed post-operatively.

Long Term Effects:

Recurrence of septal deviation may occur after correction.

Risks:

Complications are rare in occurrence and may include: bleeding, infection, septal perforation, Nasal obstruction may occur secondary to swollen turbinates, re-deviation of the septum. Further surgery may be required in rare cases. Rarely the shape of nose can change. Significant bleeding can occur in less than 10% of patients needing further treatment including packing or re-admission to hospital.