

Rhinoplasty and Septoplasty

Surgically altering the nose is a common plastic surgery procedure that often has a profound impact on a patient's life. In some cases this procedure is required to alter the internal anatomy of the nose in order to address functional breathing problems.

In others a patient may desire to change the appearance of their nose. Rhinoplasty alters the external appearance of the nose, improving its shape and balance with the face. Frequently a combination of internal and external alterations are performed simultaneously.

Functional Problems

Airway obstruction is the most common functional nasal problem. It may be caused by either congenital or post-traumatic deformity of the nasal septum. Enlargement of the turbinates may also occur, creating an airway obstruction. All of these changes can exacerbate existing sinus problems.

Cosmetic Deformity

Some cosmetic deformities of the nose are post traumatic, while others are congenital. Both can be addressed similarly by surgically altering the underlying bony and cartilaginous framework of the nose.



The Procedure

Septoplasty and rhinoplasty are generally done on an outpatient basis and require either general anesthesia or sedation with a local. Airway problems are treated by removing or reshaping the septal cartilage. Some cases require a reduction in the size of the turbinates. Changes to the shape of the nose are accomplished by reshaping the bone and cartilage framework of the nose. In most cases the incisions can be located inside the nose resulting in no visible scars. Frequently used post-operative measures include splinting, taping and nasal packing.

The Results

Rhinoplasty can have a substantial effect on a person's appearance and, ultimately, their general sense of well-being. On rare occasions, touch-up procedures may be required. Alterations/corrections of the septum are very effective at improving air flow and reducing preoperative symptoms.



(218) 724-7363 or (800) 964-6891

northlandplasticsurgery.com or info@northlandplasticsurgery.com



COLEEN'S *Story*

Coleen came to our office to discuss problems with her nose. She had suffered an injury 20 years ago and was having trouble with obstruction of the left nasal airway. She was unhappy with the appearance of her nose. She pointed out a dorsal hump that she did not like and perceived her nose to be too large and too long. An exam revealed her airway obstruction to be due to a deviated septum.

"I had a deviated nasal septum which impaired my breathing. Since the surgery I have equal airflow through my nasal passages, and I am more happy with my appearance ... it has given me a softer look." ~ Coleen