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**INFORMED CONSENT FORM FOR RHINOPLASTY  
(NOSE SURGERY)**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

This is an informed consent document that has been prepared to help your plastic surgeon inform you concerning rhinoplasty surgery, its risks, and alternative treatment. It is important that you read this information carefully and completely. Please initial each page, indicating that you have read the page and sign the consent for surgery as proposed by your plastic surgeon.

**INTRODUCTION**

Surgery of the nose (rhinoplasty) is an operation frequently performed by plastic surgeons. This surgical procedure can produce changes in the appearance, structure, and function of the nose. Rhinoplasty can reduce or increase the size 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. This operation can help correct birth defects, nasal injuries, and help relieve some breathing problems. The surgery might include using implants either synthetic (eg. silicone, gortex ) or autogenous (eg. cartilage from the ear, nasal septum or ribs) to help improve the shape of the nose.

There is not a universal type of rhinoplasty surgery that will meet the needs of every patient. Rhinoplasty surgery is customized for each patient, depending on his or her needs. Incisions may be made within the nose or concealed in inconspicuous locations of the nose in the open rhinoplasty procedure. Internal nasal surgery to improve nasal breathing can be performed at the time of the rhinoplasty.

The best candidates for this type of surgery are individuals who are looking for improvement, not perfection, in the appearance of their nose. In addition to realistic expectations, good health and psychological stability are important qualities for a patient considering rhinoplasty surgery. Rhinoplasty can be performed in conjunction with other surgeries.

**Patient's initials :**

## **ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT**

Alternative forms of management consist of not undergoing the rhinoplasty surgery. Certain internal nasal airway disorder may not require surgery on the exterior of the nose. Risks and potential complications are associated with alternative forms of treatment that involve surgery such as septoplasty to correct nasal airway disorders.

## **RISK of RHINOPLASTY SURGERY**

With any type of surgery there is inherent risk. An 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 these complications, you should discuss each of them with your plastic surgeon to make sure you understand the risks, potential complications and consequences of rhinoplasty.

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

**Infection** – Infection is quite unusual after surgery. Should an infection occur, additional treatment including antibiotics might be necessary.

**Extrusion of synthetic implant** – Silicone or gortex implants used for nasal augmentation can sometimes extrude from the surgical wound or nasal tip. If this occurs the implant might need to be remove and further surgery required.

**Scarring** – Although good wound healing after a surgical procedure is expected, abnormal scars may occur both within the skin and the deeper tissues. Scars may be unattractive and of different color than the surrounding skin. There is the possibility of visible marks from sutures. Additional treatments including surgery may be needed to treat scarring.

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

**Patient's initials :**

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

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

**Asymmetry** – The human face is 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.

**Allergic reactions** – In rare cases, local allergies to tape, suture material, or topical preparations have been reported. Systemic reactions, which are more serious, may occur to drugs used during surgery and prescription medicines. Allergic reactions may require additional treatment.

**Delayed healing** – Wound disruption or delayed wound healing is possible. Some areas of the face may not heal normally and may take a long 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 rhinoplasty surgery. Future surgery or other treatments may be necessary to maintain the results of a rhinoplasty operation.

**Nasal septal perforation** – There is the possibility that surgery will cause hole in the nasal septum to develop. This occurrence is rare. However, 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 air way alteration** – Changes may occur after a rhinoplasty or septoplasty operation that may interfere with normal passage of air through the nose.

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

**Patient's initials :**

ADDITIONAL SURGERY NECESSARY

There are many variable conditions in addition to risk and potential surgical complications that may influence the long term result of rhinoplasty surgery. Even though risks and complications occur infrequently, the risks cited are the ones that are particularly associated with rhinoplasty surgery. Other complications and risks can occur but are even more uncommon. 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, on the results that may be obtained. Infrequently, it is necessary or perform additional surgery to improve your result.

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Name:  
IC/Passport:

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Date:

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Witness Name: