

# VENICE PLASTIC SURGERY

A.E. HAAS, M.D.

*Cosmetic, Reconstructive, Face, Breast, and Hand Surgery*

## **Nasal Surgery also know as Rhinoplasty**

The nose is operated on for both cosmetic and for reconstructive purposes. These often work in opposite directions however. The nose is reconstructed after parts are removed as from a cancer operation. In other cases there is breathing obstruction from previous trauma, a deviated septum or both. In cosmetic nasal surgery the result is often to make the nose smaller and this is a problem as breathing problems occur or are made worse.

Aesthetic Nasal Surgery can be used to elevate the tip of the nose that is drooping. The hump or spine on your profile can be reduced. In some cases the base of the nose is wide and can be narrowed. The tip is often bulbous and this may be reduced.

A person in good health can be of any age and have Aesthetic Nasal Surgery. The lower limit is probably people in their late teens.

Surgery is performed on an out patient basis. The nose is often packed for a few days making breathing only possible through your mouth. The final result is somewhat variable and cannot be guaranteed. The structure of the nose is cartilage and it is like a spring. Things settle into slightly different positions over time. The nose is often subjected to multiple procedures and these are at additional costs. Swelling and discoloration may last over a year and a half.

Some say Dr. X can do the procedure with fewer scars or little swelling or no bruising. This is only possible by doing smaller, less extensive procedures. If more surgery is done, if it is more thorough, then more swelling and bruising must occur. These things are a function of how much work is done. When a lot is done then a lot of swelling will occur.

Note that the amount of bruising and swelling is very dependent of each patient. Some swell more and some less. But in all cases there will be more swelling and bruising as more surgery is performed. Expect black eyes for a few weeks.

To minimize the risks of surgery any Cosmetic Procedures are performed in the hospital or the Outpatient Surgery Centers, not in office surgery rooms. We need Anesthesiologists present to do sedation or even general anaesthesia. Some doctors do it themselves while doing the Cosmetic Surgical procedure. This is not good. We want a room full of surgical assistants, nurses, technicians all at the same time. We want a recovery room full of trained nurses, not just one nurse as in some office surgery settings. We want a surgical suite full of all sorts of surgical instrumentation. If we do get into a difficult situation, and yes it can happen, then we are prepared to deal with the issue.

Bleeding is always present with any surgery. But the procedures should not be continued if the need for a transfusion is close. Why risk it? Stop and complete the procedure another day if necessary. This is just safer in our way of thinking.

Infections occur with any surgery of any type. The trick is to catch it early. At Venice Plastic Surgery a commitment is needed from the patient before any surgical procedure. Patients are seen often after surgery. If an infection starts and it is caught early then further complications are often prevented. Patients must be examined every few days after procedures to answer questions, check incisions and inspect or change dressings.

One thing often ignored is sun exposure. A fresh wound from trauma or from a surgical procedure must be protected from sun exposure. The sun alone accounts for a lot of scar conditions. Avoidance and the use of high SPF clothing and sun block are a must. This is one thing that makes scars worse and is for the most part preventable.

Review the section on Limitations and Risks of Cosmetic Surgery.

**The above represents the opinion of A. E. Haas, M.D.  
Venice Plastic Surgery, Venice Wound Center, Lakeside Medical Center**

**Just call us directly. No referral needed unless required by your insurance company**

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