

THE PERFECT NOSE

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This is easily clarified during the consultation with photo imaging.

Photo imaging is the ability to take real-time photographs in different planes and angles. It is with these images that joint planning for desired modifications can be made. This is always a great experience and revelation for patients as for the first time they can visualise in place of imagining how their nose can look. It is also a good time to experiment with exploring other possibilities of either a larger or smaller nose, only changing the tip or having a very straight bridge or one that is slightly more curved. These images are available for you to take home to consider with family and friends.

Approximately a week or two prior to surgery Dr Mooney and yourself reconvene to consolidate your joint plans and desired outcome. It is also a time when you discuss concerns on surgical complications.

The nose is more than a cosmetic feature, it is also a functional organ which can encompass obstruction that leads to breathing difficulty during the day or night times as well as hayfever sinusitis, snoring. All functional and cosmetic issues can easily be addressed at the initial consultation.

Functional assessment begins with a discussion of your breathing difficulties and continues through to examination viewing into your nasal passages as well as testing your nasal breathing capacity. In Dr Mooney's experience it is often improved function that gives patients the most joy. As it has a domino effect on many aspects on the quality of life. Many patients often experience improved sleep patterns, exercise performance, improved concentration with study and work as well as improved taste and appreciation of smell which leads to greater safety if something burns, or, if the gas is left on!

Sinusitis can be a serious medical problem especially being so closely juxtaposed to other vital organs such as the eyes and brain. Accurate medical assessment can mean avoiding infective complications that can involve these structures.

Patients often arrive for their first consultation with great anxiety about the procedure itself. However, in experienced

and skilled hands rhinoplasty is a safe procedure, not overly painful and has an excellent outcome in the vast majority of patients. General anaesthetic and overnight stay are regular routine with rhinoplasty surgeries and patients can expect approximately a 10 -14 day recovery period. Within a couple of weeks most major bruising and swelling is resolved. The final result, however, may take some months to become apparent.

Dr. Mooney's Clinic performs hundreds of rhinoplasty procedures a year and although most patients are first timers we do see a few who have had a procedure elsewhere and are dissatisfied. Common errors seem, to stem from poor planning (both functional and cosmetic), poor communication between doctor and patient, or surgical failure. These problems can all be avoided if time is taken pre-operatively to thoroughly assess your nose aesthetically, its airway and function problems, as well as communicating what you expect and should expect from your procedure, in addition to choosing an experienced surgeon.

