New Procedure Can Result in Rhinoplasty (Cosmetic nasal) Surgery

The proper nasal tip position and nasolabial angle (angle between the upper lip and the nose) are critical to a pleasing esthetic result, but can be challenging to achieve in rhinoplasty surgery. While several methods have been advocated to improve the nasolabial angle, such as various suturing techniques, cartilage grafts and trimming of nasal cartilage, these methods have been shown to have limitations in modifying and stabilizing nasal tip position.

In “Lateral Crural Suspension Flap: A Novel Technique to Modify and Stabilize the Nasolabial Angle,” an article appearing in the September 2013 issue of the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, authors Behnam Bohluli, DDS, Payam Varedi, DDS, Shahrokh C. Bagheri, MD, DMD, and Shahriar Nazari, MD, report on a new technique they believe is efficient and reproducible. They cite the common limitations of inadequate nasal tip rotation, partial or complete relapse, the need for a large amount of cartilage to modify the nasal tip position and nasal tip distortion as just some of the reasons to seek alternative positioning and stabilizing techniques.

The report describes a relatively straightforward method that uses portions of the lower nasal cartilage (usually removed during rhinoplasty surgery) as two flaps to connect the nasal tip to the septum to modify and stabilize the nasolabial angle. The main limitation of the novel technique is the need for wide pieces of cartilage, that might make this technique inapplicable in some secondary rhinoplasty cases.

However, the new technique discussed in the article can be applied as an adjunctive technique to other standard methods and add to the stability of operative results. It could also be performed solely on its own in certain rhinoplasty cases.


The Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is published monthly by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons to present to the dental and medical communities comprehensive coverage of new techniques, important developments and innovative ideas in oral and maxillofacial surgery. Practice-applicable articles help develop the methods used to handle dentoalveolar surgery, facial injuries and deformities, TMJ disorders, oral cancer, jaw reconstruction, anesthesia and analgesia. The journal also includes specifics on new instruments and diagnostic equipment and modern therapeutic drugs and devices.

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