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DISEASES OF THE EAR, NOSE, AND THROAT
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY
DIPLOMATE - AMERICAN BOARD OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY

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Sinus Surgery Consent: Risks and Benefits

Planned Procedure(s)

Balloon Sinuplasty Septoplasty Inferior Turbinate Reduction Polypectomy

Sinus and nasal surgery are used when medical management fails to control the disease problems in the nose and sinuses. These procedures are very safe and effective, but all procedures carry with them certain risks. You must be aware of these before we proceed.

Bleeding. Mild oozing is common after any nasal procedure. Sometimes, especially if you take blood thinners or aspirin, the bleeding will be more prominent. This is the most common complication of nasal surgery.

Numbness. A temporary numbness of the upper teeth, gum and lip may occur after balloon sinus surgery, but is usually transient.

Infection. The most common reason patient undergo sinus surgery is infection, so any present infection could increase the risk of infectious complications, including meningitis, etc. with or without surgery.

Nasal Obstruction. Some mild swelling can occur after surgery resulting in temporary obstruction. In the case of septal surgery, the cartilage and bone could remain somewhat off center and cause residual obstruction. Some small scar bands can also form within the nose causing obstruction.

Dryness and crusting. This is confined primarily to endoscopic sinus surgery and septoplasty. Endoscopic sinus surgery, as opposed to balloon sinuplasty, involves the removal of tissue and bone and results in crusting. A septoplasty could cause dryness or even perforation of the nasal septum, resulting in crusting in the nose.

Anesthesia complications. Anesthesia of any kind, whether local or general anesthesia, may result in adverse reactions ranging from numbness and burning to reactions causing cardiac and pulmonary complications.

Intracranial/intraorbital complications. These are primarily confined to endoscopic sinus surgery, where abnormal drainage of spinal fluid from the nose or injury to the tear duct or eye could occur. These are rare.

After reading these and discussing them and alternative treatments, I agree to the procedure(s).

Patient/Guardian signature

Date

Witness signature

Date