Research Assessment #8

Date: November 20, 2020

Subject: Management of the Crooked Nose

MLA citation(s):

Murakami, Craig S, and Richard A Zoumalan. "Management of the Crooked Nose." *Head and Neck Surgery – Otolaryngology*, 5th ed., Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, 2013, pp. 2977–2988.

Assessment:

As one of the most difficult procedures in rhinoplasty surgery, the management of the crooked nose continues to be a hard task for many plastic surgeons.The improvement of a crooked nose can be managed both nonsurgically and surgically. Nevertheless, many patients often prefer to undergo a surgical operation for a crooked nose due to the fact that the surgical procedure offers a permanent result as compared to its nonsurgical counterparts. As a result, mastery of a surgical rhinoplasty to improve a crooked nose is crucial for a successful plastic surgeon and can be approached in many different ways. With this research assessment, I hoped to understand more about the multitude of ways that a crooked nose could be fixed as well as the different types of techniques that are utilized in order to give the patient the ideal result.

One key component of ensuring an accurate result is a good preoperative analysis by the plastic surgeon. The article specifies how the plastic surgeon must establish a midline for the patient and divide the nose into thirds in order to analyze each section effectively (2978). Facial analysis and proportions has appeared multiple times throughout my research and I believe that by establishing common patterns and standardized procedures, it will be more beneficial to not only the physician, but also to the patient so that an ideal end result can be achieved.

Furthermore, the authors mentioned how the top third of the nose consists of nasal bones, the middle third consists of the septum and upper lateral cartilages, and the lower third consists of the septal angle and the lower lateral cartilages (2978). Understanding each component of the nose in this way provides an effective manner by which the facial plastic surgeon can inquisitively analyze each component of the nose. I predict that the majority of crooked deviations occur primarily in the middle third of the nose where a deviated septum may occur. Throughout my research and my past experiences with understanding rhinoplasties, I believe that a deviated septum (septoplasty) is the most common and that manipulation of these lateral cartilages is extremely important.

Additionally, I believe that the utilization of grafts in order to straighten the septum is a component of facial plastic surgery and rhinoplasty that I would love to learn more about. In the article, the authors discussed how the spreader graft is a cartilage graft that is placed between the upper lateral cartilage and the septum. They said how they can be bilateral (both sides of the septum) or unilateral (one side of the septum) and can range in size depending on the patient's nose deformity. The authors also included how the spreader graft is sutured into place with a park suture (2981). Overall, this aspect of facial plastic surgery and the rhinoplasty procedure represents the creative as well as maneuvering quality that this sect of medicine brings. This on-the-move thinking and manipulation of nasal structures and utilization of grafts is one very exciting component that the surgical rhinoplasty brings. Furthermore, I really like how variable these techniques can be and I assume that through additional practice, a plastic surgeon can master each technique in order to decipher the way he or she likes best. My next step in this process is to research more about the implication of these spreader grafting techniques and to learn more about how to specifically obtain one of these grafts for a procedure.

As a whole, the process of understanding, researching, and specifically analyzing the nasal structures and techniques broadened by knowledge of the surgical rhinoplasty procedure for a crooked nose and heavily informed be about how a plastic surgeon approached this nasal deformity. Furthermore, this information is going to be very beneficial for my original work so that I can successfully show how to effectively straighten a crooked nose.