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Otolaryngology
Head And Neck Surgery
Facial Plastic Surgery
Allergy, Asthma, Immunology

Patient Name: _____

Doctor Name: _____

Request for Surgery

RISKS AND COMPLICATIONS OF SINUS SURGERY (ENDOSCOPIC/ OPEN APPROACH/ ETHMOIDECTOMY/ MAXILLARY ANTROSTOMY/ SPHENOIDECTOMY/ FRONTAL SINUSOTOMY/ POLYPECTOMY)

The following are the possible complications and risks associated with this procedure. In addition to those listed here, there may be some unforeseen complications as there are with any operative procedure.

Infection: Infection is unusual following this type of surgery. Should it develop, it may require additional surgery and/or antibiotics to drain the infection and prolong hospital treatment.

Bleeding: Bleeding may occur after surgery. This will usually subside by itself but packing or other methods of hemostasis may be required. More serious bleeding or bleeding, which occurs later, may require repacking or further surgery to control bleeding.

Dryness of the nose and crusting can occur. This is usually temporary but rarely can become permanent.

Swelling and edema of the tissues in the nose can reoccur causing nasal obstruction

Changes in the sense of smell: Surgery can occasionally cause alterations in the sense of smell. This will usually return but can become permanent.

Numbness of the teeth or part of the face: The nerves to some of the upper teeth and face pass through the nose. Surgery can cause temporary and rarely permanent damage to these nerves.

Blindness: Blindness can occur as a very unusual complication of any surgical procedure of the face and nose.

Damage to the eye or vision: This is a rare complication of nasal and sinus surgery. Infections in the sinuses cause thinning of the bones separating the sinuses from the eyes and this in association with surgery can cause loss of vision, which can be permanent and total. Double vision and excessive watering of the eyes can also occur.

Excessive tearing: This can occur as a result of damage to the tear duct. This is an unusual complication of nasal surgery but may occur with any type of nasal or sinus surgery.

Recurrence of polyps or sinusitis: This is not a complication of surgery but a result of the nature of these diseases.

Spinal Fluid Leak: This is an unusual complication of nasal surgery. This usually closes while healing but can require further surgery including a major surgical procedure to close the leak from above. Meningitis or infection of the lining of the brain can occur.

General Anesthesia: There are risks involved with general anesthesia and you should discuss these with the anesthesiologist.

Local Anesthesia: Local anesthesia may have risks including allergic reactions or other unfavorable reactions.

I have read, understand and considered the risks and complications of Sinus surgery.

Patient's Name: _____

Patient's signature (or Patient's guardian signature): _____

Witness: _____

Physician: _____

Date: _____