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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 SEPTOPLASTY

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 to drain the infection and prolong hospital treatment. Changes in the shape of the nose may occur from infection.

Bleeding: Bleeding may occur after surgery. This will usually subside by itself but packing or other methods of hemostasis can be required.

Hematoma: Blood can collect between the layers of tissue requiring drainage.

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 occur after surgery causing nasal obstruction. Occasionally the obstruction can be prolonged and may require further treatment.

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

Spinal Fluid Leak: This is an unusual complication of nasal surgery. While removing crooked or damaged bone it is possible to tear the lining of the skull, which can cause a leak of spinal fluid. 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.

Change in the shape of the nose: Surgery on the septum may cause some, most often not noticeable, change in the shape of the nose. In some cases, where there are severe fractures of the septum, these changes may be more obvious.

Recurrence of crooked septum: It is possible for the corrected septum to shift its position during healing and occasionally require further correction.

Septal perforation: It is possible for a hole to develop in the septum after surgery. This sometimes requires treatment. It is sometimes not possible to repair a septal perforation.

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 Septoplasty.

Patient's Name: _____

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

Witness: _____

Physician: _____

Date: _____