Secondary Rhinoplasties—One Year’s Study

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Abstract. Dissatisfaction with unfavorable results after primary rhinoplasty brings more patients to the plastic surgeon each year, seeking to achieve the desired appearances. Secondary, or revision, rhinoplasties offer satisfactory results, but must be undertaken after all special considerations have been thought about and discussed with the patient.

Key words: Rhinoplasty — Secondary rhinoplasties

It is our common knowledge that secondary or revision rhinoplasties are always essentially more complicated than the primary approach, which in 90% of the cases involves some type of reduction of anatomical portions of the nose. At secondary or tertiary correction, augmentation or replacement is usually necessary to achieve an acceptable anatomical appearance and better physiological function.

Like Rogers [21, we have found that in the last few years, the number of cases with unfavorable results after primary rhinoplasty have constantly increased. Even the most skilled plastic surgeon has a rate of 5–9% of cases requiring reoperation.

In 1980, I performed a total of 74 rhinoplasties, including 24 revisions (Figs. 1–6). Two patients came from my own practice, having undergone the primary surgery in 1978. Of course, there is a hidden number of possible patients who consulted a surgeon other than the primary surgeon because of dissatisfaction with the primary result.

The patient does understandably try to weight the advantages and disadvantages of returning to the primary surgeon. Generally, the patient does return for...