

Preface



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Guest Editor

Rhinoplasty has evolved more quickly over the past 10 years than in any other time of the past 100 years. Breakthrough to this evolution has been the open technique, in which the entire structure of the nose can be inspected accurately and favorably distorted to effect maximal cosmetic and functional change. Today, the operated-on nose can be stronger and more stable than the virgin nose. Minimal excisions of cartilage, coupled with adding cartilaginous support from the septum, ear, and rib, have permitted unprecedented change, truly allowing plasticity in the result.

The feuds among egos of the past, trading progress in knowledge for divided camps of thought, have been largely supplanted by collegial exchanges of information among disciples of rhinoplasty. It is common today to see plastic surgeons and facial plastic surgeons put aside differences to share a common stage, furthering exchange of knowledge at unprecedented rates.

Despite all the knowledge that experience has given the field, there is still much to learn. The challenge is never to be complacent and content with

our results but to continue being self-critical and ever examining our thinking and skills. Technologic advances promise amazing horizons of new tissue engineering techniques, further expanding what we are able to achieve surgically.

In this issue are assembled the thoughts of some of the best minds in rhinoplasty today. Some are widely recognized as leaders in the field, whereas others represent the emerging next generation that should break new ground in the future. All have already made a tremendous contribution to our field. I hope you enjoy what they have to teach.

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