

reconstructive rhinoplasty for men

Sydney plastic surgeon **Dr Warwick Nettle** spoke with Louise Conville about rhinoplasty for men.

In modern rhinoplastic surgery there are two main types of incision, open and closed. Sydney plastic surgeon Dr Warwick Nettle prefers the open incision method. 'I prefer the open rhinoplasty technique because I believe it to be more accurate than the closed technique. The open incision allows full visibility of the area being worked on, while I feel the closed incision can block the

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surgeon's view. For me, this results in limited access to the area and a sense of almost looking through a mirror upside down to see your work.'

According to Dr Nettle, 'Ninety percent of the revisions that I perform are of closed rhinoplasties by other surgeons. The main causes for failed surgery are that too much substance has been removed from one place, while too little has been taken away from another.'

Dr Nettle believes the main consideration in reconstructive rhinoplasty is that the nose is as functional as possible, but also as aesthetically pleasing as possible. 'The shape of a man's nose shouldn't be lifting upwards. We can create a shape that is strong and masculine without it being too large or hooked. It's vital to suit the nose to the shape of the face and view the whole picture to achieve the best results,' he says.

People decide to have reconstructive rhinoplasty because they have either functional issues or shape issues, but it is most commonly a combination of the two. This type of nose surgery is more difficult to perform than normal rhinoplasty. 'I prefer to do an open rhinoplasty when I do work on the columella. With this method, it is possible to join up with incisions on the inside of the nose. I then lift the skin up and off the underlying cartilage and bone to expose the previous surgery so that reconstruction work is accurate,' he says.

Dr Nettle explains it takes patience and attention to detail in order to perform a reconstruction successfully and make the nose function normally and also look good. However, any incisions are difficult to see after six to eight weeks.

As with primary rhinoplasty, it is recommended to take ten days off work for reconstructive surgery. It can take a few more weeks to see the final shape.

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Dr Nettle believes that in almost all cases something can be done to improve a patient's nose. 'Although reconstructive rhinoplasty is more difficult than primary rhinoplasty, results are positive and patients are much happier once they've had the revision done,' he says. **acsm**



BEFORE (previous surgery done by another surgeon)



AFTER revision rhinoplasty by Dr Nettle



BEFORE (previous surgery done by another surgeon)



AFTER revision rhinoplasty by Dr Nettle