

What is a rhinoplasty?

- A rhinoplasty is the general term for a cosmetic nose operation.
- Primary rhinoplasty refers to the first operation on a nose. Secondary or revision rhinoplasty is performed when the nose has undergone one or more previous cosmetic operations.
- The term septorhinoplasty is used when the surgery also involves the nasal septum, the midline wall of cartilage and bone which divides the inside of the nose inside into two halves. If this is crooked it may require straightening (an operation known as a septoplasty) to improve breathing.
- Cosmetic and functional surgery to improve breathing should ideally be performed at the same time, rather than separate operations.
- In reality almost all rhinoplasty operations involve the nasal septum to a lesser or greater degree.
- Surgery is generally performed under general anaesthetic (you will be asleep). You will be asked questions to make sure you are fit enough to undergo the procedure and that the anaesthetic does not carry significant risks.