Rhinoplasty: Cases and Techniques
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Reviewed by: Steven H. Dayan, MD, FACS
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INTRODUCTION

It is clear that Dr Godin devoted much energy and time to writing *Rhinoplasty: Cases and Techniques*, which he hopes will be “the most useful rhinoplasty book you will ever own.” The text is a hardcover, 373-page book that is creative, instructive, and distinctive. The uniqueness of the book rests in the last section, which is organized by common nasal deformities. For each nasal deformity, individual cases are provided by 1 or a few of the 37 noted scholars and well-respected contributing experts in the field of rhinoplasty.

STRENGTHS

Dr Godin’s coverage of preoperative preparation—from first encounter to immediate postoperative treatment—is well detailed, organized, and easy to follow. He provides a good overview for all surgeons who perform rhinoplasty. More than once, he stresses the need to set realistic expectations; this topic can never be overemphasized when it comes to nasal reshaping. Additional sections on specific techniques and postoperative care are similarly helpful, well organized, and clear. Dr Godin and his coauthors also cover the important complications associated with rhinoplasty in a relatively comprehensive fashion.

Section 5, the final section, is where Godin’s book distinguishes itself from many of the other texts on rhinoplasty. This valuable section is divided according to major deformities (overprojected tip, underprojected tip, bulbous tip, saddle nose, etc), and each section contains elaborate case examples with preoperative and postoperative pictures and diagrams indicating the maneuvers performed. The diagrams are colorful, large, and easy to interpret. Many of the cases also have illustrations describing the underlying anatomy and steps taken to cure the defect. For the plastic surgeon preparing for a rhinoplasty case, this may prove very helpful and provide a resource that is different from other books on the market.

There is a healthy representation of many of the typical noses presenting to a cosmetic surgery practice, ranging from simple and straightforward nasal deformities to collapsed noses requiring highly complex revision surgery. It was also nice to review various experts’ techniques for both revision and primary cases (18 of the 69 cases presented in the book are revisions).

WEAKNESSES

Especially in the first (preoperative) section, the book could have benefitted from more attention to photographic techniques. Some the photos that are used for demonstration purposes have unusual and differing shadow patterns from a single light source, whereas many others have dual light sources and different positioning. Standardization of photographic methods is probably something toward which we should strive throughout the specialty, as this is essential for consistency and accuracy in medical journals, presentations, teaching, and communication.

In terms of technique, the case reports seem disproportionately weighted toward 1 method of rhinoplasty. Only 3 of 69 cases demonstrate an endonasal rhinoplasty technique,

Dr Dayan is a Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Illinois, Department of Otolaryngology, Chicago, Illinois.
but for many surgeons, this is a viable method for achieving consistently satisfying results. Clear intraoperative photographs of closed rhinoplasty would pose difficulties, and perhaps this is the reason for not including more endonasal cases, but an endonasal rhinoplasty diagram would be just as valuable as an open approach diagram (upon which many of the other cases relied in the absence of photographs).

Some areas, such as the discussion of defect fillers (alloplastic onlay dorsal grafts and hyaluronic materials), could have been expanded to make the book even more enlightening for novice surgeons. It was educative to see a faction of authors discussing the use of foreign materials such as Gore-Tex, PDS plates, acellular dermal grafts, and polyethylene implants, but again, for the novice surgeon just delving into rhinoplasty, detailed information on these materials would be of great help. It is not uncommon for a surgeon to use 1 technique or product only to realize a year or two later that complications have arisen, it did not meet its intended use, or it did not prove to be a cost-effective alternative. Although the mature surgeon realizes this, novice surgeons, quick to be early adopters, may not.

An additional criticism is that some of the cases provide only short-term follow-up, especially since appraising rhinoplasty outcomes is so highly dependent on time. These authors are highly experienced surgeons who probably could have provided cases with longer-term follow-up, but the editor acknowledged this shortcoming convincingly, commenting that the shorter-than-desirable follow-up is balanced by the excellent early results and valuable techniques demonstrated.

**SUMMARY**

This book likely will have the greatest value for the intermediate rhinoplasty surgeon looking to expand his or her practice in that area. Godin’s text can provide a complementary and comforting guide to leaping forward quickly. However, the novice surgeon or recent graduate may find it difficult to comprehend the subtleties of some of the techniques described in the text unless already somewhat familiar with them. For seasoned experts who have already performed many hundreds of rhinoplasties, the book may not be the first one they pick off their shelf, but they will surely find it to be a worthwhile review or a reassurance reference just prior to a case.

I applaud Godin on contributing a rhinoplasty book to the literature that is unique in design and thought. His ability to weave the experiences of multiple authors into a relatively seamless representation that accurately covers what is arguably the most difficult of all cosmetic surgical procedures is an impressive feat.

**RATING**


**Disclosures**

The author declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and publication of this article.