Book Review

Secondary Rhinoplasty by Rodolphe Meyer, Springer-Verlag, New York, 506 pp., \$279.00

This, the third book on nasal surgery by Dr. Rodolphe (Rudi) Meyer, is devoted entirely to secondary rhinoplasty. In his two previous books, he demonstrated his unparalleled knowledge and skill as a rhinoplasty surgeon. In this book, he combines all of that with his vast experience in secondary rhinoplasty, putting together this superb volume as only a pioneer of secondary rhinoplasty could.

The 36 chapters are well written and amply illustrated, with most of the photographs and artwork in color.

Every conceivable problem in secondary rhinoplasty is covered ranging from the common problems such as residual bony and cartilaginous deformities, tip problems and airway obstruction, to more challenging and subtle, finesse problems dealing with the nasolabial angle and upper lip. Secondary airway problems, including septal deviation and perforation, turbinate reduction and airway stenosis and atresia are included. There are also chapters on rhinoplasties in children, cleft lip/nose, and total and partial nasal reconstruction. More than the entire field of secondary nasal surgery is covered, as well as esoteric problems.

This truly is a comprehensive text with over 2,000 references, from Abbe (1898) and Zwaardemaker (1889) to today, over a century of rhinoplasty literature is referenced, including Dr. Meyer's first rhinoplasty paper published over 50 years ago in 1951. Each chapter is devoted to a specific problem. The causes of the problem are analyzed, prevention of the problems are discussed, and then the secondary correction is described in detail and illustrated by numerous case presentations. As pointed out by Dr. M. Eugene Tardy in the forward, "what works" and "what doesn't work" is clearly discussed by Dr. Meyer.

The first 10 chapters, are essential reading for anyone performing rhinoplasty whether primary or secondary!

Chapter 1, History, is a succinct and interesting chapter dealing with the history of rhinoplasty.

Chapter 2, General Considerations, is referred to by Dr. Blair O. Rogers in his forward to this text as "one

of the most valuable portions of this book". I would agree. In this short chapter with no illustrations, there are "pearls" in almost each paragraph. To me the following is one of the most notable: "*The choice of a specific technique and a certain flexibility on the part of the surgeon in application of his or her personal method, and also frequent preoperative and intraoperative evaluations of specific characteristics of the nasal structures requiring particular attention are more important factors in preventing mistakes, failures and complications in rhinoplasty.*"

Chapter 3, Sociology, deals briefly with the sociopsychological aspects of rhinoplasty and the role of friends and family in the dissatisfaction of the patient.

Chapter 4, Jurisprudence, is a sign of the times, dealing with the legal aspects of secondary rhinoplasty.

Chapter 5, Anatomy, is a comprehensive, well-illustrated description of the anatomy of the nose, followed by Chapter 6 on the physiology.

Chapters 7 and 8 deal with preoperative evaluation and timing, and Chapter 10 deals with complications. These first 10 chapters are basic reading for all of us interested in rhinoplasty.

Those of us who have had the privilege to watch Dr. Meyer operate and have heard his presentations will not be surprised by the overall excellent quality of the book, the detailed analysis of the problems, the solutions and great results presented in a clear, methodical way.

This excellent text should be in the library of any surgeon performing rhinoplasty, because as Dr. Meyer writes in Chapter 2, "*Artistic judgment is an intangible concept and postoperative healing is unpredictable. No matter how well trained, experienced, careful, artistic, or lucky a surgeon may be there will still be secondary deformities.*"

On behalf of all of us who will deal with the secondary problems, we applaud Dr. Meyer on this excellent text and thank him for sharing his expertise.

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