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Pre-Rhinoplasty Computer Imaging Moderately Accurate

Last Updated: November 16, 2010.

Computer imaging prior to rhinoplasty has moderate accuracy, and the more accurate it is, the more satisfied patients tend to be with their postoperative results, with most patients finding it very useful, according to research published in the November/December issue of the *Archives of Facial Plastic Surgery*.

TUESDAY, Nov. 16 (HealthDay News) -- Computer imaging prior to rhinoplasty has moderate accuracy, and the more accurate it is, the more satisfied patients tend to be with their postoperative results, with most patients finding it very useful, according to research published in the November/December issue of the *Archives of Facial Plastic Surgery*.

Umang Mehta, M.D., of the Atherton Plastic Surgery Center in California, and colleagues analyzed graded assessments by surgeons and non-surgeons of photographs and morphed preoperative computer imaging (PCI) images of 38 rhinoplasty patients six months post-procedure and surveyed the patients on their level of satisfaction to determine how accurate PCI is in reflecting postoperative results.

The expert panel determined mean overall accuracy to be 2.98 on a five-point scale, with supratip height being the lowest-rated of the 12 parameters considered, and measurements of the upper third being the highest rated. Patient satisfaction correlated highly with PCI accuracy, and the majority of the patients found the PCI extremely useful.

"PCI is a useful exercise, valued by patients during the rhinoplasty consultation. Accuracy is moderate in both primary and revision cases, although supratip edema is a limiting factor at the six-month mark," the authors write.

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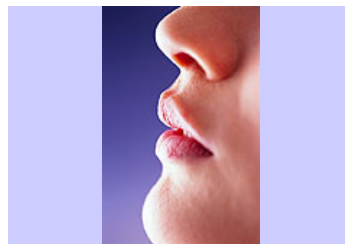
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Patients find it useful, with higher accuracy correlated with higher satisfaction

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