

Computer-aided image simulation in rhinoplasty

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The patient's consultation with the physician prior to rhinoplasty is an important part of preoperative clarification. It decisively influences the confidence between the operator and the patient. The patient's ideas regarding the desired modifications of shape should be discussed, and the operator should point out unrealistic wishes. A prospective study applied subjective and objective criteria to evaluate computer-aided image simulation in the preparatory phase of functional and aesthetic surgery. Computer-aided simulation of the altered nose shape on a digital image was carried out in 20 patients with a subsequent questionnaire to analyze their acceptance. The patients were explicitly informed that this procedure served the purpose of illustration and did not guarantee a particular surgical result. In addition, the predictive value of the procedure was determined postoperatively on the basis of digital images and a postoperative questionnaire.

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