

## Frequently Asked Questions – Sinus Surgery

Q. Is there bleeding after surgery?

A. *Minimal bleeding.*

Q. Will there be any sinus infections after surgery?

A. *Technically, you can get a sinus infection until the healing process is complete.*

Q. Is there failure to this procedure?

A. *The success rate is in the high 90's.*

Q. Will I have scarring?

A. *Yes. Only inside the nose and the two sinus cleanings after surgery reduce unwanted scar tissue.*

Q. Is there complication such as blindness, double vision, Brain leakage?

A. *Very rare. We use the latest intra-operative computer technology to perform a more thorough job, more safely.*

Q. When will the numbness to the teeth return to normal?

A. *Over months, but most people do not complain about this.*

Q. Will this change my voice in a bad way?

A. *No, but if you are a singer, you do need to know that your voice may change.*

Q. Is there a possibility of damage of the teeth?

A. *No.*

Q. Can I take my daily medications?

A. *You can take everything **except: aspirin, Motrin, ibuprofen, alka-seltzers, vitamins, herbs or teas, ginkgo or weight supplements.***

Q. Can I go out of town after my surgery?

A. *Not for at least two weeks, due to the unlikely chance of bleeding.*

Q. When can I go back to work?

A. *Three days after surgery, but no heavy lifting or straining for at least one week.*

Q. When can I blow my nose?

A. *Lightly, one week after splint removal.*

Q. When can I go back to exercising?

A. *One week after surgery.*

Q. Is this a very painful procedure?

A. *In general, no. However, patients frequently complain of nasal congestion, which can be uncomfortable.*

Q. Do I get pain medication?

A. *Yes.*

Q. Will the surgery change the sense of smell?

A. *It should not adversely affect smell.*

Q. Where does Dr. Tamez perform the surgery?

A. *Usually at Oakwood Surgery Center, located behind our office, or at Round Rock Hospital.*

Q. Will my nose change in any form or fashion?

A. *The shape of the nose should not change.*

Q. How will I feel after surgery?

A. *You should be able to move around the next day (i.e. go to the mall, out to dinner).*

Q. Am I completely asleep during the procedure?

A. *Yes, under general anesthesia.*

Q. What kind of packing will I have up my nose?

A. *In the sinuses there is gel packing. In the nose there are flexible plastic splints.*

Q. After surgery, will I need to take any further medications.

A. *Long term, you would need to irrigate your sinuses and use steroid nasal sprays everyday. Dr. Tamez may recommend an allergy evaluation.*

Q. Can you swim after sinus/septum surgery?

A. *Not for at least 4-5 weeks unless the nose is pinched.*