Rhinolift: A Uniquely Simple Technique to Address the Ptotic Nasal Tip
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Objective
Nasal tip ptosis is a common problem that is especially prevalent in older patients. The drooping tip and gradual alteration of the underlying cartilaginous framework can cause significant impediment of the nasal airway, and it is frequently a source of cosmetic concern. This study aims to demonstrate a simple, effective approach to the management of nasal tip ptosis.

Methods
Retrospective review of 25 patients who underwent a rhinolift in an academic otolaryngology and facial plastic surgery practice over 13 years. Pre- and post-operative photography was used to assess cosmetic improvement. Functional improvement was assessed through post-operative chart review.

Results
All patients noted significant improvement in the nasal airway. Cosmetic results were largely improved from both surgeon and patient perspectives. Follow up ranged from 3 months to 12 years.

Conclusion
In patients with nasal tip ptosis due to senile elastosis, both the soft tissue envelope and underlying cartilaginous framework must be properly addressed to achieve satisfactory results. The rhinolift, when performed on properly selected patients, is one the most rewarding procedures in any facial plastic surgeon’s armamentarium. The procedure is simple to master, expeditious, and has little morbidity.

Bibliography

Excision of supratip ellipse
Suspension of lower lateral cartilages
Reapproximation of skin: tip elevation
Preop and 6 months post-op: improved nasolabial angle and airway; erythematous supratip scar gradually improving

Senescent changes in the nose: ptosis and effacement of the nasal cartilages are corrected via recreation of the scroll area