

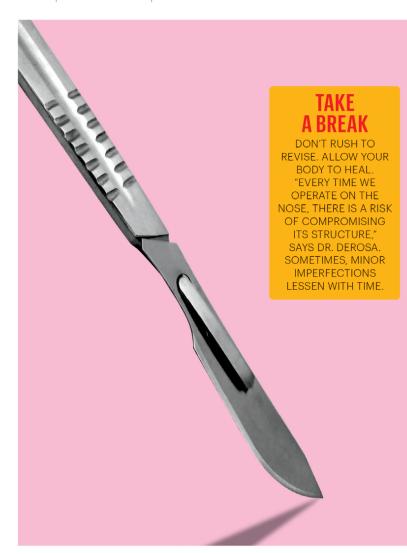
THE CLINIC REVISIONS

"She took precise measurements, modeled the nose and described a strategy in layperson's terms," says Donna. "She felt different than any other surgeon I had consulted with. I've repeatedly thanked her for changing my life. My nose looks normal. Finally."

Dr. DeRosa says not all patients who are potential candidates choose revision. "It's a big decision. Every time you operate on the nose, you weaken it," she says. But, she is comforted that a majority of her patients come in with realistic expectations. Ten years ago, she says, that was not the case. Patients wanted Angelina Jolie's nose, but in most cases, they lacked her cheekbones, eyes and lips. "Today, patients are self-imaging on photo-editing apps. They're getting real-time information on how their nose might look after surgery." Dr. DeRosa says apps cannot replace a surgeon's own imaging, which takes into account aspect ratios and nasal skin thickness.

Unlike rhinoplasties, facelifts rarely require revision. "Time and the progression of the aging process are the most common reasons for a revision," says Charlotte, NC facial plastic surgeon Joshua Surowitz, MD. His partner, facial plastic surgeon Andrea Garcia, MD, adds that occasionally patients with heavier faces may require a minor touch-up a year after their initial surgery."

The decision to undergo a revision is not one that should be taken lightly. But, at least in dexterous hands, a rough beginning can be chiseled into a work of art that even Michelangelo would approve. It just might take more than one try. NB



# CAVEAT EMPTOR

BEFORE THE KNIFE, THERE'S THE PEN. HERE'S WHAT TO EXPECT BEFORE YOU SIGN

## **CONSENT FORMS**

list the known minor and more serious complications. This list is not meant to scare you before a procedure, but rather to make you a more educated patient and consumer.

### **COMPLICATIONS CAN** AND DO HAPPEN,

but a capable, boardcertified surgeon who specializes in your procedure should be trained to recognize them and address them during or after surgery.

#### DISCUSS THE REVISION CLAUSE.

If a revision surgery is needed, medical malpractice attorney Trisha S. Widowfield says a patient may still be responsible for some associated surgical fees.

#### MANAGE EXPECTATIONS.

"Patients need clear expectations to determine what results the surgeon can assure and what the potential variations can be," says Widowfield.

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## DON'T GO AWOL.

Comply with your surgeon's postoperative instructions, schedule and show up for followup appointments, and notify your surgeon of any new or unusual concerns that may arise.

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