

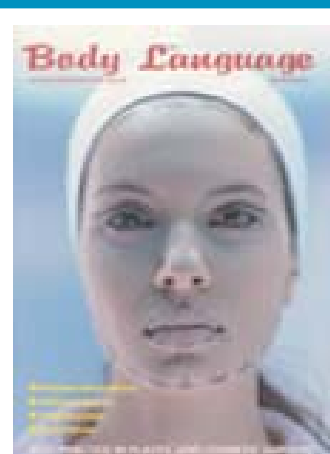
Pliable Titanium excellent for Rhinoplasty, says surgeon

A Manhattan plastic surgeon is using titanium for rhinoplasty. Rhinoplasty is among the most popular types of cosmetic surgery in the US, where nearly 200,000 procedures are performed annually.

Dr Michael Sachs said: "The beauty of the titanium is that it can fit right into the skin layer, and it is thin but strong and non-reactive."

Titanium is an exceptionally strong metal that has been used for years in other medical applications (such as screws, wires, and medical devices). It doesn't cause reactions, so it is considered safe for surgery.

Explaining his technique, Dr Sachs said: "First, a tiny incision is made in the nostril. Then, a small amount of titanium is placed through the incision. Although the metal is strong, it is also fairly pliable.



"The titanium can be molded into the desired shape, which acts like a supporting bridge, holding the tissues in place and giving the nose a new look. The titanium physically lifts the tissues out to where they should be.

"What's particularly nice is the patient is right there and you can adjust it right in front of them and say, 'Okay is that what you wanted?' And they say, 'Yes, that's great,'" said Dr Sachs.

In the post-operative visit, minor modifications can be made to the implant to adjust the shape to the patient's satisfaction.

