

Nasal septal abscess

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摘要

Abstract

Definition

Infection with pus formation within the nasal septum or partition. It is normally seen following trauma to this region with bleeding within the lining of this area causing a haematoma and subsequent colonisation with bacteria causing abscess formation.

Causes

Trauma to the nose, haemophilia or other blood clotting disorder.

Symptoms/Signs

Increasing nasal obstruction, significant tenderness over the nasal tip with pain often occurring within 48 hours of trauma to the nose. Fever with pain on touching the nose and reddening of the nasal bridge may occur.

Complications of the Disorder

Structural collapse of the cartilaginous part of the nose causing a saddle deformity to the external aspect of the nose.

Tests

No specific test other than adequate nasal examination.

Treatment

Incision of the abscess and drainage of the infection. The pus may be analysed for bacterial culture. Intravenous antibiotics would normally be used to aid clearance of the infection with the subsequent conversion to oral antibiotics after surgical incision and drainage.

Outcome/Prognosis

The above treatment normally controls the acute infection. However, should the external shape of the nose change over the ensuing months, then further reconstructive surgery may be required.