



Book Review

Edited by Maria M. Tsoukas, MD, PhD

James F. Thornton, Jourdan A. Carboy, *Facial Reconstruction After Mohs Surgery*. 228 pages. Thieme Publishers, New York, 2018. \$199.99

Background

Delivering on its objective of presenting common reconstructive techniques for Mohs surgery defects, *Facial Reconstruction After Mohs Surgery* provides an organized, thorough overview for management of the post-Mohs patient (Figure 1). In giving a comprehensive text, there is a myriad of information ranging from basics of skin grafting to the intricacies of nasal reconstruction. The authors of the textbook are from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, an institution nationally renowned for its plastic surgery and dermatology departments. The textbook is intended as a guide for both beginner and experienced surgeons regardless of specialty; however, the book may serve special interest for those dedicated to improvement in facial reconstruction after skin cancer. Contributions from authorities in Mohs surgery, oculoplastic surgery, and anesthesia provide expert insight, making the text an inclusive resource.

Highlights

The book is thoughtfully divided into 3 distinct sections and 25 chapters, beginning with the foundations of reconstruction, progressing to focused reconstruction based on anatomic location, and concluding with complications and an emphasis on the importance of revisions.

The first section incorporates a well-rounded introduction of plastic surgery principles for the beginner surgeon interested in developing a solid foundation. Well-constructed diagrams and illustrations provide added visualization to the text, allowing for excellent understanding of the material. In this section, there is a chapter titled “Special Considerations for Mohs Patients,” in which the author describes personnel,

materials, and logistics required for a functional Mohs reconstruction clinic. Added details, such as recommendations for instruments, provide beginners with the insight of an experienced surgeon.

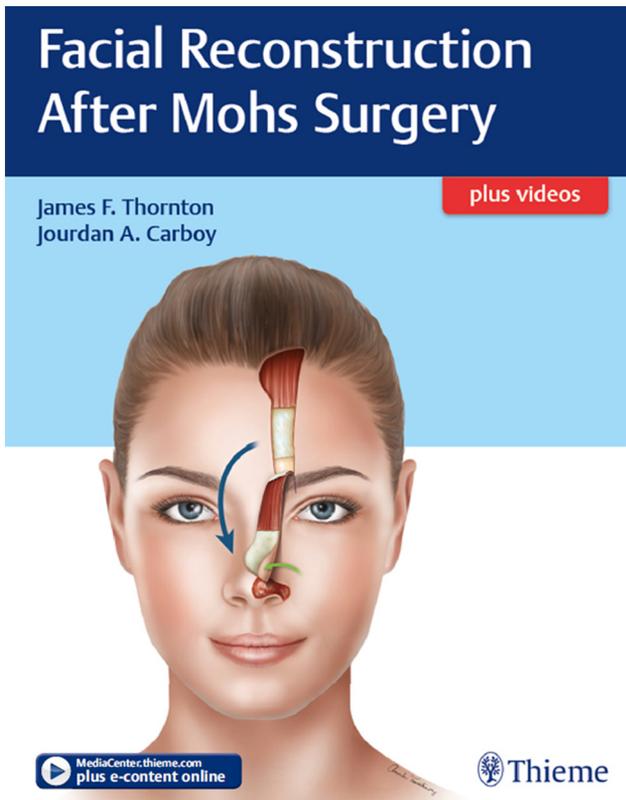
The next section transitions to a more focused approach suited to the experienced surgeon. These chapters include an increasing number of patient cases with progress pictures. Chapters are divided into anatomic locations, including the eyelid, lip, and ear, with additional attention paid to nasal reconstruction due to its technical challenges. This section, in particular, includes detailed algorithms for each discussed anatomic location, aiding surgeons in decision making for appropriate closure of defects. These algorithms stratify based on criteria, such as anatomical structure involvement, size of defects, patient ability to tolerate flaps, and surgeon preference.

The final section allows for the detailed assessment and management of patients after their initial reconstruction. Three chapters are dedicated to revisions involving skin grafts, local flaps, and pedicled flaps. The authors place a firm emphasis on the proper approach to revision based on early versus late stages of healing and employment of adjuvant measures such as autologous fat grafting to provide the best results.

The text includes several high-quality illustrations, an excellent example of which is demonstrated in the chapter titled “Nasal Reconstruction Based on Subunits” (Figure 2). Anatomic drawings from the *THIEME Atlas of Anatomy, Head, Neck and Neuroanatomy* are a wonderful complement to remind readers of complex anatomy; however, the true highlight of the book is the inclusion of numerous case photographs depicting the progression of repairs, allowing readers to visualize healing and anticipated final outcomes. In many chapters, such as the aforementioned, the intertwined use of both schematic illustrations and case pictures from practice creates a comprehensive understanding of the reconstructions.

Conclusions

The authors firmly endorse the notion that the field demands the most academic of minds to provide patients with



the most aesthetic and functional outcomes. Throughout the text, the authors emphasize surgeon responsibility in the outcome regardless of extrinsic factors. In doing so, they provide an avenue for personal improvement and patient-centered surgery above all else. The attention to detail in this book is a testament to the authors' commitment of patient-centered care for patients with facial skin cancer excisions. The text will indisputably provide both new students and experienced physicians with a valuable, comprehensive resource for facial reconstruction in this distinctive population.

Priyanka Patel, BS
 Artem Sergeyenko, MD
 Department of Dermatology, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois, USA

Fig. 1 Cover of *Facial Reconstruction After Mohs Surgery*, written by James F. Thornton and Jourdan A. Carboy.

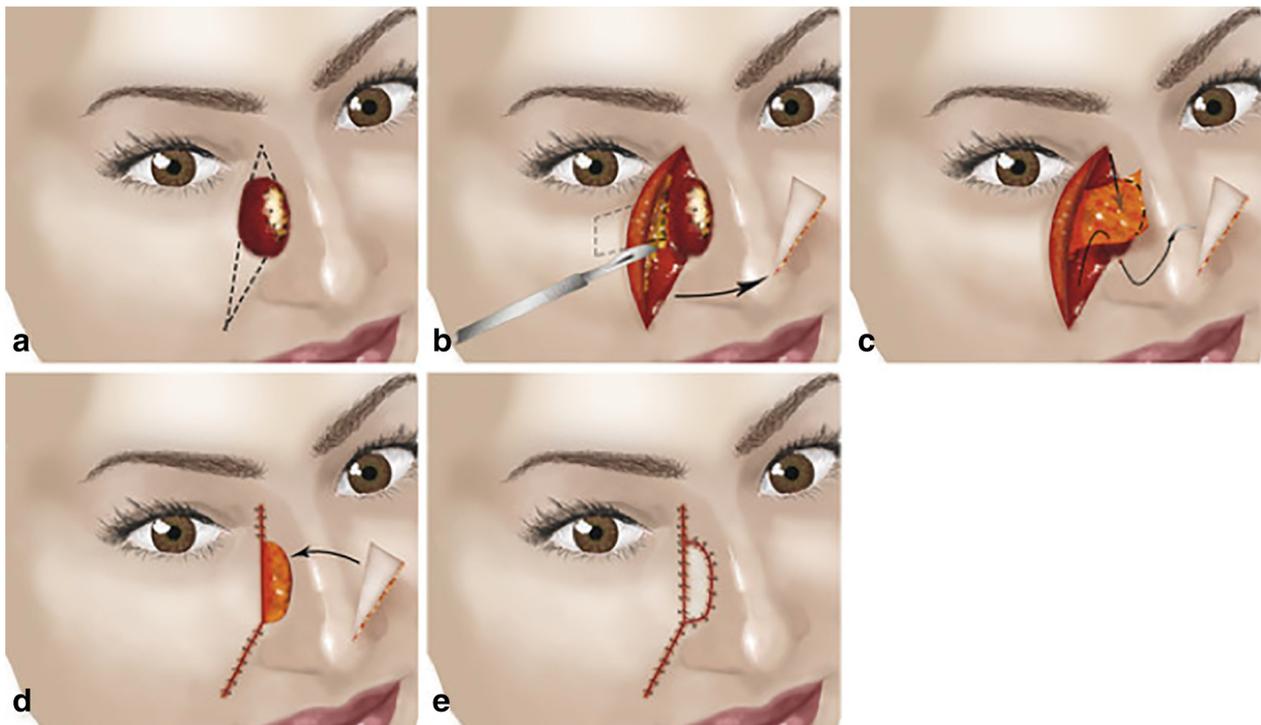


Fig. 2 Sample schematic illustration from the textbook.