

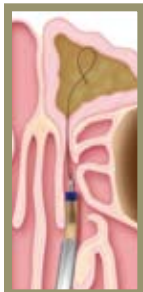
Did you know?

The latest from the field of otolaryngology

Treating Rhinosinusitis with a new intervention.

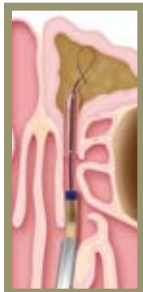
In the U.S. alone, the cost of clinically diagnosed infectious sinus disease has been estimated to exceed several billion dollars annually with conventional medicines and other therapeutic methods. Rhinosinusitis is a commonly diagnosed clinical malady that too often leads to frequent lost worker productivity. The most recent advance in the treatment of sinusitis, in addition to preventative and medical therapeutics, is a technique known as *balloon sinuplasty*.

The maxim of aggressive treatment for an infectious bacterial process is still the mainstay of rhinosinusitis management – specifically, appropriate use of antimicrobial therapy, nasal decongestants, nasal saline irrigations, or nebulizers, and often topical or systemic steroids.



Step 1

To gain initial sinus access, the sinus guide catheter is introduced into the target sinus under endoscopic visualization. A flexible guidewire is introduced through the catheter and gently advanced into the target sinus under fluoroscopic guidance.



Step 2

The sinus balloon catheter tracks smoothly over the sinus guidewire and is positioned across the blocked ostium. Using fluoroscopy, the position of the catheter is confirmed. It is gradually inflated to gently restructure the blocked ostium.



Step 3

The Balloon Sinuplasty™ system is removed, leaving the ostium open and allowing return of normal drainage and function with little to no disruption to mucosal lining.

In patient cases recalcitrant to conventional conservative measures, but without evidence of fulminant paranasal sinus disease, **balloon sinuplasty can treat frontal, maxillary, and sphenoid sinuses without any cutting or removal of nasal tissue.** The intervention utilizes a specially designed sinus balloon catheter passed over a guidewire by fluoroscopic guidance. Once the balloon is in the desired natural sinus ostium, it is inflated and non-traumatically reestablishes patency of the sinus targeted, often a major factor in the pathology of the sinus disease process.

Highlights of balloon sinuplasty:

- Minimal pain
- Minimal bleeding
- Fast recovery time
- Navigates difficult sinus anatomy
- Expands options in use for sinus therapy
- Not indicated for nasal polyp disease

Balloon sinuplasty is a relatively young intervention with new potential applications in selected patients. In over 900 carefully selected cases utilized nationwide, no complications have yet been reported. The application of this technique for many patients is now available.

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