

Nasal Analysis: Preferred Terms

Accessory Cartilages - small cartilages of nasal alae found in the space between the lateral ends of the lateral crura and the pyriform aperture edge.

Alae - the lateral wall of the nostril that extends from the tip to join the upper lip.

Alar Crease Junction (ACJ) – is the most posterior point of the curved line formed by the alar crease as seen in profile view.

Alar Base Width – the width of the nose measured at the alar-cheek junction.

Alar Groove - the external, oblique skin depression that follows the caudal margin of the lateral crus as it leaves the alar rim to run in a more cephalic direction. It separates the tip from the thickened portion of the ala that joins the face at the superior cheek-lip junction.

Anatomic Dome - the junction of the medial and lateral crus.

Anterior Nasal Spine - the median bony process of the lower rim of the pyriform aperture.

Caudal Septum - the free inferior border of the quadrangular cartilage.

Caudal - means the same as inferior when referring to the nose.

Cephalic - means the same as superior when referring to the nose.

Clinical Dome - the most anterior projecting portion of the lower cartilage. The external projection of the dome is the tip defining point.

Columella - the column at the base of the nose separating the nostrils. Its posterior portion, the **Columella Base**, is usually wider.

Columellar-Labial Angle - curved junction of the columella with the lip. See also Subnasale and Nasolabial Angle.

Corneal plane (CP) – is a coronal plane tangential to the surface of the cornea¹.

Crooked Nose – a nose in which any break or deviation of dorsal nasal contour lines may give a crooked or irregular appearance.

Deviated Nose – a nose that varies from the straight vertical orientation of the face.

Dorsal Hump – a pronounced convexity of the dorsal profile of the nose.

Cartilaginous framework, bony framework or both can sustain it.

Dorsum of the Nose – where the lateral surfaces of the upper 2/3 of the nose join the midline.

Facet – see Soft Triangle.

Glabella (Soft-Tissue Glabella) – the most prominent anterior point in the mid-sagittal plane of the forehead [9]. It is influenced by pneumonization of the frontal sinus and varies widely in postero-anterior position.

“Greek Nose” – is a particular nasal profile in which the forehead and nasal dorsum are almost in line and the nasofrontal angle is almost 180 degrees. The radix break-point is excessively projected and difficult to identify.

¹ Warning, in chapter 8, CP is the abbreviation utilized for cheekbone point.

Infratip Lobule – the portion of the lobule between the tip defining points and the columellar-lobular angle.

Inverted-V Deformity – it consists of a middle vault secondary deformity in which the caudal edge of the nasal bone are visible in broad relief. It is due to inadequate support of the upper lateral cartilages and/or inadequate nasal bones osteotomy [1].

Keystone Area – the junction of the perpendicular plate of the ethmoid with the septal cartilage at the dorsum of the nose.

Lower Lateral Cartilage - the paired inferior nasal cartilages consisting of the medial, middle, and lateral crura.

Nasal Base Line – is a slightly oblique line on the skin that constitutes the lateral boundaries of the nasal pyramid. The Nasal Base Line starts superiorly near to the medial canthus and ends at the Alar Crease Junction.

Nasal Lobule - the lower part of the nose bounded by the anterior nostril edge postero-inferiorly, the supratip area superiorly and the alar grooves laterally.

Nasal Pyramid - the bony portion of the nose made up bilaterally of the nasal bone and frontal process of the maxilla.

Nasal Septum - the vertical wall that divides the nasal passage into two distinct tunnels. It is composed by a bony (perpendicular plate of ethmoid, vomer, and premaxillary crest), cartilaginous (quadrilateral), and membranous portion.

Nasal “Unbroken” Line – is the outline of the nasal pyramid in oblique view. In the attractive nose, this line descends gracefully from the supraorbital ridge onto the nasal dorsum and the nasal tip.

Nasofrontal Angle - angle of demarcation between forehead and nasal dorsum, best seen in profile.

Nasolabial Angle - the angle seen on lateral view formed by a line drawn through the most anterior to most posterior point of the nostril intersecting the vertical facial plane. The desired angle in males is 90- 95 degrees and 95-100 degrees in females [10].

Others authors identify the Nasolabial Angle as the angle defined by Columellar point-to-subnasale line intersecting with subnasale-to-labrale superior line; the desired angle is 90 to 120 degrees, more acute in male patients and more obtuse in female

Nostril Sill - the skin area forming the base of the nostril.

Pinched Nose (Pinched Nasal Tip) – a nasal tip deformity secondary to collapse of the alar rims subsequent to loss of lateral crural support from either congenital or acquired causes [6].

Piriform Aperture - the pear-shaped external bony opening of the nasal cavity.

Pollybeak Nasal Deformity – secondary deformity refers to postoperative fullness of the supratip region, with an abnormal tip-supratip relationship [1].

Radix – the area of the junction between the nasal dorsum and the frontal bone, inferiorly to the Glabella. The **radix break-point** is the most posterior point of this junction in profile view.

Rhinion – the most caudal point of the intranasal suture [8].

Saddle Nose – a pronounced concavity of the dorsal profile of the nose. Cartilaginous framework, bony framework or both can sustain it.

Soft Triangle (or Facet) - the thin skin fold between the alar rim and the curved caudal border of the junction of the medial and lateral crura. When this is well defined it is referred to as a facet.

Subnasale - the point at which the columella merges with the upper lip in the midsagittal plane [9]. It varies widely in relation with caudal septum prominence and nasal spine morphology.

Supratip Area - the area just superior to the nasal tip at the inferior aspect of the nasal dorsum.

Tension Nose (Prominent-Narrow Pyramid Syndrome) – is a particular deformity in which the external nasal pyramid is abnormally prominent. The length and the height of the nose are usually greater than normal. The radix break-point is shallow and the nasolabial angle is increased [8].

Tip – the apex of the lobule, but it is frequently used when referring to the lobule.

Tip Defining Points - the most projecting area on each side of the tip, which produces an external light reflex.

Tip Projection - the horizontal component of the distance from the most anterior point of the nasal tip and the most posterior point of the nasal-cheek junction.

Tip Rotation – is determined by the tip angle as measured from a vertical line at the alar crease to the tip with the norms being 105° for females and 100° for males [4].

Upper Lateral Cartilage (or Triangular Cartilage) - the paired superior nasal cartilages, triangular in shape extending laterally from the dorsal septum making up the lateral walls of the middle third of the nose.

Weak Triangle (or Converse Triangle) - area superior to paired domes where the cephalic margin of the Lower Lateral Cartilage separate to travel in a superior-lateral direction.