

# *Nasal Fractures.*

- (1) *Common*
- (2) *Often undiagnosed*
- (3) *Often patients do not attend for treatment.*

## *CLINICAL FEATURES.*

- (1) *Swelling*
- (2) *Deviation*
- (3) *Pain on Palpation*
- (4) *Sometimes steps along medial 1/3 of infraorbital margin.*
- (5) *Septal deviation*
- (6) *Septal Haematoma*
  - *Look up nose with otoscope*
  - *Feel septum with cotton bud*
- (7) *Numbness bridge/dorsum nose*
- (8) *Epistaxis*

## *RADIOGRAPHS*

*Plain Radiographs - but not always or even clearly seen on plain radiographs.*

## TREATMENT

*Treatment consists of either:*

(1) *Conservative management*

(2) *Surgical management.*

- *Manipulation*

- *Open reduction*      - *Significant Deformity*

- *Where manipulation unsuccessful*

- *Compound/displaced noses*

- *Concomitant fractures with midfacial injury.*

*(It is not uncommon for patients not to attend outpatient clinic after injury).*

## PRE-OPERATIVE CARE.

(1) *Little usually necessary*

(2) *Control epistaxis if needed*

(3) *Consider steroid IV if operative treatment envisaged to reduce/control swelling*

(4) *No need for antibiotics until compound or septal haematoma.*

(5) *Non urgent treatment in most cases. May consider easy intervention prior to development of significant swelling.*