

Balloon Sinuplasty Video Transcription

Since I've been a small child, I've suffered every year with allergies. My allergies inevitably ended up with sinus infections. I've had sinus infections on an annual basis for almost 50 years now. It's been chronic, it's been difficult having to go the doctor 3-4 times every fall and winter just for medication for the sinus infections. I have, and it constantly reoccurred. Not too long ago, I believe it was February this year of 2014, Dr. Van Tuyl suggested that I might benefit from a balloon sinuplasty. He explained the procedure about how he goes in with a small scope through the nose and into the different nasal passages and uses a little balloon to expand them so it drains better. I said sure, I'd be willing to undergo that procedure if he thought it would help. Well I did. And I wasn't quite sure initially how it helped, because I had a little bit of a runny nose after, apparently that's normal. Here I am giving you this interview in September, so it's been at least 6 months since the procedure. I have not had one single sinus infection from then until now. My nose has been draining normally, I presume. Prior to the surgery I've not had a normal nose working. I've had post nasal drip, I've had congestion. I can breathe freely through my nostrils now, without difficulty, without clogging. I do have occasional post nasal drip, but I haven't had any infections and I attribute that all to the sinuplasty. It's the only thing that's been different from prior years to this one. And I have just lived through allergy season and I'm heading into some more in the autumn, and we'll see. I think, personally, that this sinuplasty is going to allow me to get through the entire allergy year without a sinus infection, for the first time in almost 50 years.

The procedure itself does not hurt. I will tell you though that when Dr. Van Tuyl did it for me, he gave me an opportunity to choose between being awake for the procedure or being put to sleep. I chose awake, and that was a mistake. I was not comfortable. It wasn't painful, I was just aware of what he was doing and I didn't really enjoy that much. I have memories of it. Afterwards I went into Piedmont hospital to a forum with Dr. VanTuyl and Dr. Robinson shortly after my procedure, and I told the folks gathered there that the option to not have the anesthesia was not a good choice on my party. If I had to go back and choose again, I would choose the anesthesia because a person undergoing the procedure would be unaware of what Dr. VanTuyl was doing and I think that would be the preferred choice at this point, having gone through the other. I am just delighted with my health since that procedure.

If any of you are considering the procedure, due to chronic sinusitis, I am sure you would not be looking at this video unless Dr. VanTuyl had recommended the sinuplasty to you. I would not hesitate to recommend it to you. The recovery time was rather rapid. It only took me about 2 weeks and recovering from the procedure was almost instantaneous. I didn't have any bad effects walking out the door. I had a little bit of discomfort in the nasal passages for a couple weeks, but that went away. It was no worse than having a sinus infection. I would highly recommend that you consider this procedure, and I even more highly recommend you select Dr. VanTuyl, he's an excellent surgeon.

I have been a patient here for several years. I started out as an allergy patient which really helped me with the allergy shots, but it didn't help me overcome the sinus infections. I still had them on an annual basis. So I've been a sinus patient here for several years. I've never had a problem with any of the staff or the office procedures. Everything has run smoothly as far as I'm concerned for all of my time here at this practice. Occasionally I've had to wait longer than I cared to for an allergy shot, and those of you who get allergy shots know exactly what I'm talking about, but you know in a doctor's office sometimes there are days like that and I've learned to accept that. So that would be my only complaint and it's a minor one. Sometimes I'm a bit inconvenienced by the schedule lagging more than I would prefer, but nobody can control that so I can't complain. If I didn't like it here, if I wasn't treated well, if I wasn't satisfied with my experience here, I would stop coming and I've been here for several years. I highly recommend Dr. VanTuyl, Dr. Robinson and Jeff and all the nurses and staff. They give you wonderful patient care here.