

Technology and Skill in Endoscopic Facial Surgery

**Technology-Augmented Craftsmanship in
Endoscopic Facial Rejuvenation:
A Scientific Comparison to Golf**

Oscar M. Ramirez, MD

Private Practice

Volunteering Faculty, Cleveland Clinic, Fort Lauderdale, FL

DISCUSSION

Subsection: Instrument Selection and Golf Club Analogy

The analogy between endoscopic facial rejuvenation and golf extends beyond skill and technology; it also includes strategic selection of specialized instruments. In golf, each club is engineered for a particular biomechanical purpose, enabling long-distance drives, controlled mid-range strokes, high-trajectory wedge shots, or delicate putting maneuvers. Selecting the appropriate club is essential for optimizing performance.¹

Endoscopic facial rejuvenation parallels this concept through its diverse assortment of periosteal elevators, angled dissectors, endoscopic scissors, graspers, biters, and needle holders—each designed for specific phases of subperiosteal elevation, muscle modification, fixation, or hemostasis.^{2–3} Broad, gently curved elevators allow sweeping elevation across the frontal bone, while narrow, angulated instruments enable precision around the corrugator complex and arcus marginalis. Fine-tipped scissors and graspers act like precision putters, providing controlled resection or weakening of the corrugator muscles while protecting the supraorbital and supratrochlear nerves.⁴

This principle was emphasized extensively in Ramirez's early cadaver workshops in Baltimore, where instrument geometry, tactile feedback, and fulcrum mechanics were

Technology and Skill in Endoscopic Facial Surgery

taught as foundational skills.⁴ Just as the golfer internalizes how each club behaves under varying terrain and stroke demands, the endoscopic surgeon must understand how each instrument interacts with tissue resistance, depth, and angulation within a limited-access endoscopic field. Through experience, selection becomes anticipatory, contributing to safer dissection and more predictable aesthetic outcomes.

REFERENCES

¹ Wanzel KR et al. Visual-spatial ability in surgery. *Am J Surg.* 2002;184:291–295.

² Ramirez OM. Endoscopic techniques in facial rejuvenation. *Aesthetic Plast Surg.* 1994;18:213–223.

³ Ramirez OM, Maillard GF. Extended subperiosteal face-lift. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 1993;92:859–868.

⁴ Ramirez OM. *Endoscopic Facial Rejuvenation Workshops*, Baltimore, 1992–1999.

Technology and Skill in Endoscopic Facial Surgery

FIGURE 1. Endoscopic approach from the scalp toward the supraorbital rim, demonstrating soft tissue elevation above periosteum.



FIGURE 2. Upgraded anatomical illustration showing corrugator muscles, supraorbital nerve, and instrument trajectory entering from the scalp.

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