

Health

M A G A Z I N E

breakthroughs

ON THE NOSE

If you can't sew it, glue it. Michael Evan Sachs, MD, chief of the division of facial and plastic surgery at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary in New York City, found that Enbucrilate, a clear synthetic glue clinically tested on 39 of his patients, holds nose tissue, bone and cartilage strongly in place after nasal surgery, and recommends it for the most challenging cases of nasal reconstruction.

Though Enbucrilate is still in its experimental stage, Dr. Sachs says it shows great promise for people whose noses have been severely damaged by accidents, numerous cosmetic nasal operations or drug abuse (cocaine, even nasal sprays). Until now, nose surgeons have had to contend with anything from sutures to steel wires to put such broken noses back together again, and those techniques not only cause infection but they don't always stand up to time.



Reconstruction of a "scooped-out" nose



Reconstruction of a very low bridge gives this 25-year-old woman a more flattering profile