

New surgical tools

The top surgeons have some new toys. The Harmonic Scalpel uses ultrasonic energy to glide through delicate tissues without creating trauma. It minimises bleeding and speeds up surgery time. The Endotine Ribbon is a thin, dissolvable holding device used in facial surgery to tighten cheeks and jowls. It has tiny prongs that hold tissues up and is naturally absorbed by the body about six months after surgery. By that time, bundles of collagen should have formed around it to hold everything in place naturally. New York-based cosmetic surgeon Sam Rizk (drsamrizk.com) is the first surgeon to have adapted a three-dimensional, high-definition telescope system for cosmetic surgery. He uses it for delicate procedures like correcting facelifts or fine-tuning difficult noses, as it enables him to make smaller incisions and record the surgery. He also employs new tissue glues, as opposed to uncomfortable surgical drains, to cut down on bruising and swelling after brow- and facelifts.