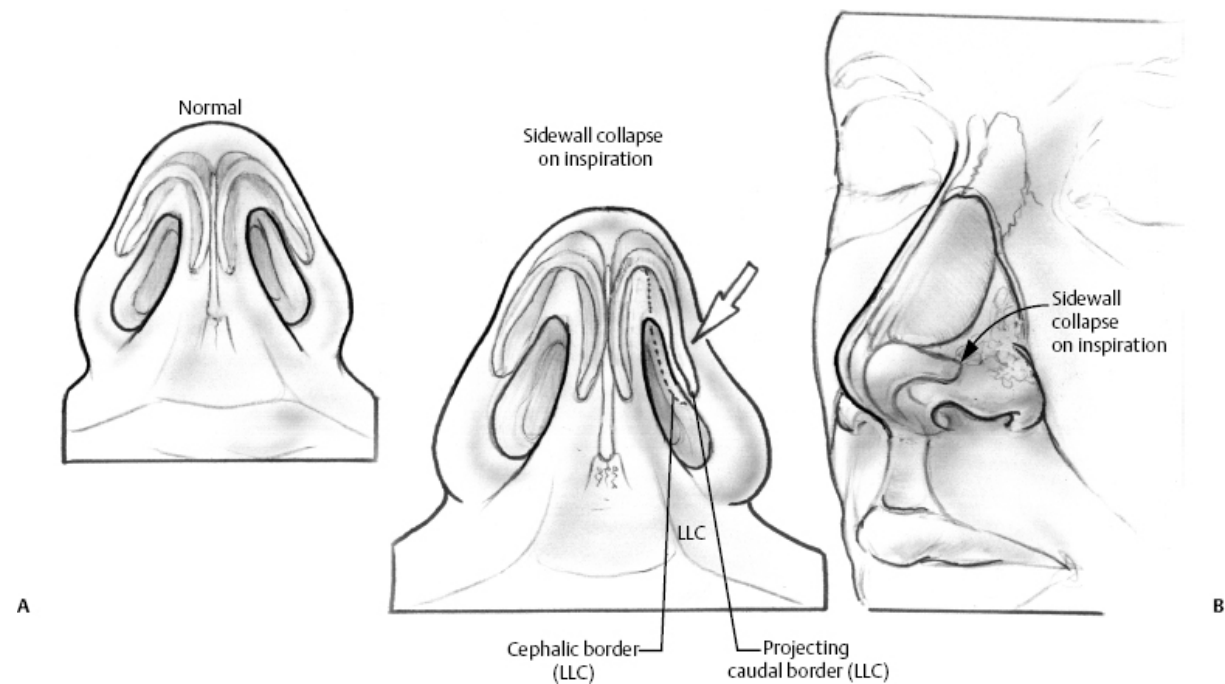


CHICAGO NASAL & SINUS CENTER INTRODUCES A NEW SURGICAL IMPLANT TO IMPROVE NASAL BREATHING

Difficulty breathing through the nose is one of the most common patient complaints treated at Chicago Nasal and Sinus Center.

Nasal obstruction can be due to a number of factors. The “nasal valve” is the narrowest part of the nasal passage and determines the rate of airflow through the nose. Typically, nasal obstruction is due to decreased space between a **deviated nasal septum** (the wall that divides the two sides of the nose is crooked) and **swollen inferior turbinates** (enlargement of the radiators within the nose that warm and humidify the air); however, some people still can't breathe clearly through their nose even after surgery to straighten the septum or reduce the turbinates. **There is increasing awareness of the importance of a third component to the “nasal valve” and that is the nasal sidewall.**

If the cartilage of the nasal sidewall is weak, either due to prior surgery or prior injury or just as a matter of development, **the nasal sidewall can collapse inward as air flows in through the nose.** This can literally close off the nasal passage, causing problems sleeping at night, problems when exercising or just problems with breathing throughout the day.

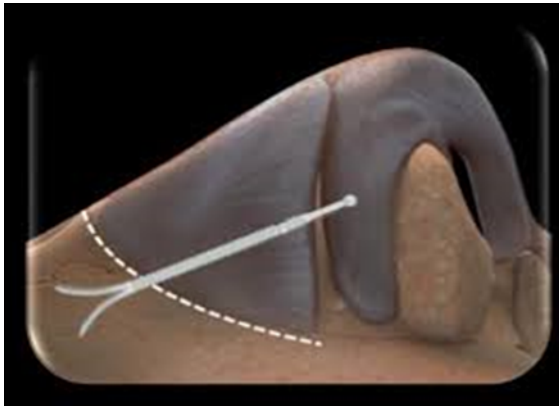


Non-surgical treatment to keep the sidewall from collapsing can include Breathe Right® strips that adhere to the outside of the nose or soft plastic cones that are inserted into the nostrils to hold the sidewall in place. These devices are very helpful at night, but may not be useful during the day.

In the past, surgical options have included use of **cartilage grafts** taken from the ear or ribs and inserted into nose to strengthen the nasal sidewall. These surgical procedures can be long and involved and there

are a number of risks and possible complications associated with the harvesting procedure (i.e., pain, swelling, infection, scarring, ear asymmetry, risk of injury to the lung).

A new implant to support the nasal sidewall is now available. The **Spirox Latera™** implant is a thin polymer strut that is inserted through a small needle placed inside the nasal passage. The strut sits on top of the nasal bone and beneath the cartilage of the nasal sidewall, lifting the sidewall and preventing collapse during breathing. This low-profile implant sits flush against the bone and beneath the skin of the nasal sidewall; improvement in nasal breathing is almost immediate and the implant is essentially invisible.



The **Spirox Latera™** implant is absorbed over time and is replaced by collagen, a structural protein produced by the body. This absorption-and-replacement process strengthens the nasal sidewall even after the implant has disappeared and can provide lasting support for the nasal airway with minimal surgical time, minimal recovery time and none of the usual risks associated with harvesting cartilage grafts.

Chicago Nasal & Sinus Center is pleased to be able to offer the Spirox Latera™ implant to patients with nasal obstruction. We are one of only a handful of sites across the country that has been selected to bring this product to market.

If you have difficulty breathing through your nose following septoplasty, inferior turbinate reduction, and/or cosmetic rhinoplasty or if you have difficulty breathing through your nose without any prior surgery or injury, you may be a candidate for this novel minimally invasive treatment.

To make an appointment for an examination and to discuss treatment options for your nasal breathing problem, **call (312) 372-9355 to make an appointment.**