

Ethmoidectomy is the medical name for a procedure that involves removing the partitions between the [ethmoid sinuses](#) in order to create larger sinus cavities. This procedure treats sinus infections and sinus obstructions that have been the cause of chronic sinus problems. The procedure may also involve the removal of nasal polyps present in the ethmoids.

The use of endoscopes in transnasal surgery offers increased visualization. To minimize rhinological morbidity without restriction in manipulation, Reisch et al., introduced the mononostril [transethmoidal paraseptal approach](#).

The aim of the transethmoidal-paraseptal approach is to create sufficient space within the nasal cavity, without removal of nasal turbinates and septum. Therefore, as a first step, a partial [ethmoidectomy](#) is performed. The middle and superior turbinates are then lateralized into the ethmoidal space, allowing a wide [sphenoidotomy](#) with exposure of the central skull base.

This minimally invasive transethmoidal-paraseptal approach is a feasible alternative to traumatic transnasal concepts with middle turbinate and extended septal resection <sup>1)</sup>.

1)

Reisch R, Briner HR, Hickmann AK. How I do it: the mononostril endonasal transethmoidal-paraseptal approach. Acta Neurochir (Wien). 2017 Jan 18. doi: 10.1007/s00701-017-3075-6. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 28097430.

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