



Manuel Bernal-Sprekelsen, Isam Alobid (ed): Endoscopic approaches to the paranasal sinuses and skull base. A step-by-step anatomic dissection guide

2017, (ISBN 9783132018815)

Georgios Klironomos¹  · Amir R Dehdashti¹

Received: 26 February 2018 / Accepted: 5 March 2018 / Published online: 20 March 2018
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The target audience of this book is defined as rhinologists, neurosurgeons, head and neck and maxillofacial surgeons, fellows, residents, and medical students. The chapter authors who contributed in the book are well balanced between neurosurgeons, rhinologists, maxillofacial surgeons, radiologists, and scientists with anatomical orientation (anatomists, neuroanatomists).

The book consists of 409 pages and is divided in 9 sections and 37 chapters in total. In the introductory section 1, the evolution of the endoscopic skull base approaches and the three dimensional 3D anatomy of the skull base along with the role of surgical simulation in endoscopic approaches is provided. The section 2 is devoted to the anatomic description and basic dissection of the lateral nasal walls and paranasal sinuses. The rest of the sections describe the approaches to the anterior, middle, and posterior cranial fossa and lateral approaches to the pterygopalatine/infratemporal fossa. There are also sections devoted to the combined cranial and endoscopic approaches to the skull base and to the description of the surgical landmarks. The authors conclude with providing details on the reconstruction techniques, which is crucial for the endoscopic skull base surgery.

Each chapter is structurally organized consistently providing a general description of the approach, main indications, the surgical steps, example illustrated cases, and possible complications. At the end of each chapter, the authors provide

the more important tips and tricks of each approach summarizing the most important nuances of the procedure. The figures are cadaveric or operative with very well resolution emphasizing the main steps of the approach. Computed tomography (CT) and MRI-based diagrams and illustration are used to conceptualize the procedure and to provide anatomical details of the approach. CTs and MRIs are also used for each cases description. The authors describe the surgical landmarks for every approach.

The present book is well-written and provides a step by step description of the endoscopic endonasal approaches to the skull base and represents an excellent overview of this particular region. It includes a very rich collection of cadaveric and operative figures that introduce the reader directly to the complex endoscopic anatomy of the skull base. This may be moderately advanced for residents and medical students but represents a very useful tool for more senior residents, fellows and junior otolaryngologist, and attending neurosurgeons. One major advantage of this book is the parallel demonstration of cadaveric and operative photos that is very useful for the reader in order to be familiar with the complex endoscopic endonasal anatomy. The radiological imaging included in the book, however, are limited and could have been more detailed correlating the anatomical figures and radiological depictions. This correlation is very important for the precise localization of the lesion and planning of the surgical approach. Overall, the authors provide a very detailed step by step description of the endoscopic anatomy and approaches to the skull base accompanied with very well selected illustrated cases. The authors managed to describe the main complications encountered with this particular surgical corridors. This book is undoubtedly recommended to all residents and fellows who plan to pursue a carrier in the field and should be considered as a useful reference textbook for the endoscopic anatomy and surgical approaches.

✉ Georgios Klironomos
geklironomos@gmail.com

¹ Department of Neurosurgery, Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine, North Shore University Hospital, Manhasset, NY, USA