



# **SURGERY OF HEAD AND NECK TUMORS**

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## **Preface**

The number of surgical procedures applicable to the head and neck is probably greater than those used in any body area of comparative size. Aside from traumatic injuries (mainly war wounds), operations of radical extent in the head and neck are seldom indicated except for neoplasms, chiefly cancer. In this volume, I have attempted to include a comprehensive description of operations for all anatomic varieties of tumors of the head and neck with the exception of brain tumors. To the best of my knowledge, such wide coverage has not been attempted previously.

Starting in Part 1 with a discussion of Basic Principles of head and neck surgery including aftercare and the management of complications, the book continues in Part 2 as an Atlas of Operative Procedures grouped according to their anatomical site. The Appendix includes an instrument list intended to be of assistance to the nurse in the operating room, instructions for camera studies during operations, and a sample of the Resident's Operative Report used by the Head and Neck Service of Memorial Hospital.

The book is addressed primarily to the general surgeon. I am convinced that the wide range of head and neck surgery can be performed successfully only by those who have a broad basic training in general surgery. Head and neck surgery as a subspecialty of general surgery is a rather recent concept; that is, the skills in this broad field have tended to be divided and isolated within separate and relatively narrow specialties. For example, surgery of skin cancer has been variously assigned to the plastic surgeon or to the dermatologist; cancer of the larynx and of the paranasal sinuses to the otorhinolaryngologist; cancer of the oral cavity and of the thyroid to the general surgeon. The material in this book will be useful to all those who include head and neck surgery in their practice.

The operations described here have been used repeatedly. Where employed more than five years ago all have succeeded in producing permanent cures of cancer. To attempt to include all possible variations of technics would be neither practicable nor useful. In the present volume, the purpose has been to present at least one basic technic and a limited number of variations thereof for each surgical problem. Oftentimes a particular technic has been chosen as the best of several which have been used successfully in the Head and Neck Service at Memorial Hospital. Technics that have been tried and found inadequate have not been included, but have been replaced by more successful procedures. In a few cases, a technic of limited usefulness has been included as a matter of record. Despite careful selection of procedures to be included in this book, new operative technics have been devised so steadily in the Head and Neck Clinic at Memorial Hospital that the size of this volume far exceeds the original plan.

The author gratefully acknowledges his indebtedness to his associates in the Head and Neck Clinic at Memorial Hospital. Many of the operative technics published here are evolutionary in character. Some are original, yet the result of many years of the cumulative experience of the staff. Certain details have been heatedly discussed at times in our weekly surgical conferences. As with most surgical operations, the original concepts of some technics included here may go back fifty or a hundred years.

Acknowledgment is also due my old friend, Mr. Alfred Feinberg, the surgical artist, whose unfailing patience, understanding, and tolerance with the temperament of a busy surgeon has made possible a successful and pleasant collaboration for over thirty years.

It is obviously not possible that a surgical text can be either complete or permanently up-to-date any more than can a dictionary. New words are being coined while new meanings are assigned to old words; and new operative procedures are being devised while these books are in press. The present volume is actually an epitome of the greater portion of my surgical experience during the past thirty-five years, and for practical purposes it is the best effort of which I am capable at this time.

HAYES MARTIN

*New York*

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