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Bones don't lie - Osteology of the anterior skull base

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The essence of a good surgeon is to have an in depth understanding of the operative field. Very often, we understand the anatomy of a region superficially but not what lies beneath the obvious. The purpose of this lecture is to hone the anatomical skills of the skull base surgeon and to provide essential surgical tips and tricks.

Bones of the skull base form a complex three-dimensional jigsaw within which run vital structures such as the optic nerve and the carotid artery. In order to protect these structures duringendoscopic surgery it is necessary to master the complex inter – relationships of the bones forming the skull base.

This lecture de-constructs the skull base into its component bones. Each bone is studied separately and the jigsaw is then put together to get a comprehensive understanding of the whole. The course of each important structure is studied as it traverses the various foramina and fissures of the skull base. The lecture also explores the critical surgical steps required to safely excise skull base lesions and prevent their recurrence. Although advanced ENT navigation systems are available to guide the surgeon intraoperatively, the best and the most accurate use of these systems can be made only by the surgeon who has all three dimensions of the skull mapped in his mind.

Speaker Biography

Renuka Bradoo is Professor & Head of Department of Otorhinolaryngology at LTM Medical College and General Hospital, Mumbai, India. She is an internationally acknowledged expert in the field of endoscopic sinus and skull base surgery with her special interest and focus of research being Angiofibroma. She was first surgeon in India and amongst the first in world to undertake endoscopic excision of angiofibroma. She has over 70 national and international publications. Her published work on 'Transcutaneous Orbital Endoscopy' for lesions lateral to the optic nerve is amongst the first few such reports in world literature. She is the author of 'Anatomical Principles of Endoscopic Sinus Surgery – A Step by Step Approach'. She has conducted an annual course in Endoscopic Sinus Surgery at her institution for last 14 years during which she has trained over 1100 ENT surgeon from India and abroad.

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