



Preface

Otolaryngologic manifestations of
systemic disease



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Guest Editors

As otolaryngologists, we are expected to be the authority on diseases of the ear, nose, and throat (ENT). We are expected to know the common disease processes as well as the obscure. In an era in which our knowledge of the etiology, pathophysiology, and management of many disorders evolves overnight, this task can be extremely challenging.

In this issue of the *Otolaryngology Clinics of North America*, we review the zebras that can roam the landscape of the head and neck. The articles are focused on ENT manifestations of systemic disease and include “classic” diseases such as tuberculosis and syphilis, as well as newly recognized processes such as plasma cell dyscrasia. Many otolaryngologists are familiar with situations in which these diseases should be included in the differential diagnosis; however, a broader understanding of these unusual processes, as well as their presentation and management, can be helpful in the evaluation of difficult patients. The contributing authors in this issue have been charged with providing a concise review of many of the systemic disorders that commonly present in the head and neck, including their etiology, pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management. We hope that these articles help otolaryngologists better understand these challenging patients and facilitate their ability to diagnose and treat them.

Personal dedications

I dedicate this issue to Jody, Samantha, and Benjamin. Thank you for your continuous support, advice, and daily inspiration along our journey together.

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This issue is dedicated to my wife Lisa and my sons Jonathan and Joseph. I would also like to acknowledge my colleagues in the Department of Otolaryngology at the New York University School of Medicine, who taught me the art and science of medicine, and the residents who continue to do so.

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