

Preface



Vincent Fook-Hin Chong, MBBS, MBA, FAMS, FRCR
Guest Editor

The skull base is often considered as a boundary and not the central area of interest to many neurosurgeons and neuroradiologists. Similarly, this very same anatomical region is of peripheral interest to many ear, nose, and throat surgeons or head- and neck-imaging specialists. Hence, the skull base oftentimes resides in no-man's-land after falling between two stools.

Clinical evaluation of suspected lesions in this region is usually challenging. The anatomy is complex and the areas of concern are relatively inaccessible for direct inspection and palpation. Depending on the nature of the pathological process and disease extent, these lesions may be treated by neurosurgeons; ear, nose, and throat surgeons; and, in many instances, a team consisting of both surgical specialties. Diagnosis and treatment of skull base disease is frequently impossible without good imaging support.

To support our clinical colleagues, radiologists should have a working knowledge of the skull base anatomy, pathology, and the main treatment options available along with their indications and

contraindications. In this way, we imaging specialists can provide crucial information in pretreatment planning and evaluation in the post treatment period.

In this special issue of the *Neuroimaging Clinics of North America*, we bring together a team of experts to share their rich experience in solving some common problems that we face in our day-to-day work. The contributions of these authors vary from reviewing diagnostic approaches that clarify clinical issues to describing the use of newer imaging techniques to answer problems that conventional methods have failed to resolve. We hope this special issue will serve as a handy reference book.

Vincent Fook-Hin Chong,
MBBS, MBA, FAMS, FRCR
Department of Diagnostic Imaging
National University Health System
5 Lower Kent Ridge Road
Singapore 117094, Singapore

E-mail address:
dnrcfhv@nus.edu.sg