
Contents

Foreword I	viii
Foreword II	ix
Preface	x
Acknowledgments	xi
Contributors	xii
1. Clinical Assessment of Neck Lymphadenopathies	1
<i>M. Kürşat Gökcan and Emre A. Vural</i>	
2. History/Classification of Nodal Levels and Neck Dissections	10
<i>Angela M. Osmolak and Jesus E. Medina</i>	
3. Surgical Anatomy of the Neck	19
<i>Jumin Sunde and Mauricio A. Moreno</i>	
4. Biological Mechanisms of Lymphatic Spread	52
<i>Joseph Zenga, Patrik Pipkorn, and Brian Nussenbaum</i>	
5. Extracapsular Spread: Biology, Imaging, Surgical Management, Pathological Diagnosis, and Therapeutic Implications	60
<i>Kathryn M. Vorwald and J. Trad Wadsworth</i>	
6. Radical Neck Dissection	68
<i>Rachel Giese and Richard Wong</i>	
7. Modified Radical Neck Dissection	76
<i>Mauricio A. Moreno</i>	
8. Selective Neck Dissection	101
<i>Marcelo F. Figari</i>	
9. Supraomohyoid Neck Dissection	118
<i>Kristen Pytynia</i>	
10. Salvage Neck Dissection: Indications, Workup, and Technical Considerations	124
<i>Mingyann Lim and Mark Zafereo</i>	
11. Complications of Neck Dissection	134
<i>David J. Hernandez and Chad E. Galer</i>	
12. Rehabilitation After Neck Dissection	143
<i>Peter S. Vosler and Douglas B. Chepeha</i>	
13. Cross-sectional Imaging	151
<i>Ryan T. Fitzgerald</i>	

14. Structures of the Neck Amenable to Ultrasound Evaluation	158
<i>Donald Bodenner and Jamie Ferguson</i>	
15. Integrated FDG-PET/CT for Head and Neck Malignancies	168
<i>Twyla B. Bartel and Tracy L. Yarbrough</i>	
16. Neck Management in Skin Cancer	176
<i>William Harris, Mauricio A. Moreno, and Brian Moore</i>	
17. Melanoma	193
<i>Shivangi Lohia and Eric J. Lentsch</i>	
18. Neck Dissection for Salivary Gland Malignancies	198
<i>Vincent Vander Poorten</i>	
19. Neck Dissection for Thyroid Carcinoma	205
<i>Michael Kubala and Brendan C. Stack, Jr.</i>	
20. Elective Neck Dissection for Upper Aerodigestive Tract Cancers	217
<i>Anil K.D. Cruz, Harsh Dhar, and Manish Mair</i>	
21. Sentinel Node Dissection	223
<i>Francisco Civantos and Samuel J. Trosman</i>	
22. Robotic Neck Dissection: The Retroauricular Approach	233
<i>Estelle Eun Hae Chang, Yoon Woo Koh, and Kang Dae Lee</i>	
23. Radioguided Neck Dissection	242
<i>Quinn A. Dunlap and Brendan C. Stack, Jr.</i>	
24. Intraoperative Neural Monitoring in Neck Dissection	255
<i>Bradley R. Lawson, Dipti Kamani, and Gregory W. Randolph</i>	
25. Management of the Neck with Radiation Therapy	266
<i>Catherine E. Mercado and William M. Mendenhall</i>	
26. Systemic Therapies in the Management of Head and Neck Cancer	274
<i>Andrew J. Johnsrud and Konstantinos Arnaoutakis</i>	
27. Histopathologic Evaluation of Neck Dissections	280
<i>Chien Chen</i>	
28. Quality Outcome Measures in Neck Dissection	291
<i>Vasu Divi and Misha Amoils</i>	
Index	295

Foreword I

Neck dissection may be required for malignant diseases of the skin, aerodigestive tract, thyroid, and salivary glands. Diseases involving the cervical lymphatics of the head and neck may be treated surgically, but may need interdisciplinary knowledge and cooperation in cases of extensive burden of disease or in the setting of a recurrence. This book is a well-constructed, comprehensive, and current summary of anatomic, medical and surgical aspects of cervical lymphatic diseases of all origins. Because many types of malignancy may metastasize to the cervical lymphatics, each respective disease is addressed with its particular anatomic and pathophysiologic nuances. These include squamous cell carcinoma, thyroid cancers, salivary gland malignancies, and skin cancers (melanoma).

The editors of this text have engaged many of the world leaders in head and neck surgery to create in-depth, evidence-based summaries of the principles of surgery for cervical lymphadenopathy. During the past decade, several advances in the understanding of and treatment for many of the primary malignancies of the head and neck have

come to fruition. This text therefore comes at an appropriate time. It will serve as an excellent reference guide for a wide range of medical and surgical experts involved in the interdisciplinary diagnosis and treatment. Although the fund of information is primarily related to clinical management, the chapters are succinct and concise, making them highly valuable not only for clinicians but also for those involved in preclinical, molecular and laboratory, as well as in postsurgical evaluation of lymphadenopathy patients. Overall, this book is an outstanding resource for an evidence-based, yet personalized, management of cervical lymphadenopathy and should have an active place in the current library of all physicians dealing with head and neck patients.

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Foreword II

Successful treatment of cancers arising in the head and neck region most often requires consideration of potential or actual metastases to lymph nodes in the neck. The finding of metastatic lymph nodes and extension of metastatic cancer beyond the lymph node capsule known as extracapsular spread (ECS) or extra-nodal extension (ENE) are the most reliable predictors of decreased survival in patients with cancers of the upper aerodigestive tract, skin of the head and neck region, and salivary and thyroid glands. Therefore, the assessment and elective evaluation or therapeutic treatment of the neck by neck dissection remains a critical component of head and neck cancer management that has not been addressed as comprehensively heretofore as it is in the text book titled *Neck Dissection*. This book has been edited by Drs. Mauricio Moreno and Brendan Stack, Associate Professor and Professor of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, respectively, at the University of Arkansas Medical School (UAMS).

I got to know Dr. Stack well through the American Head and Neck Society (AHNS) when I was Vice President of that organization and he was working with colleagues to develop an Endocrine Surgery Section of the AHNS. I was very impressed by his passion for the comprehensive management of thyroid cancers, inclusive of management of the neck in well-differentiated and aggressive thyroid cancers. Dr. Moreno was a clinical fellow for several years in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, which I now chair, through which I acquired firsthand evidence of his intense commitment to patient care, education, and technical precision in the operating room. I have proudly watched him from a distance mature from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor and Vice Chair of Adult Services at UAMS. These two colleagues have taken a very scholarly and comprehensive approach in putting together a much-needed text on neck dissection for trainees, faculty, practitioners, and allied health professionals caring for patients with head and neck cancer.

The title “*Neck Dissection*” suggests that this book might be a description of a series of surgical procedures of the same name or a surgical atlas outlining the steps of several operations considered under the general rubric of neck dissection, and it is; but it is also much, much more than that. This book contains chapters written by a collection of well-established and emerging international experts from around the world that cover a range of relevant subjects. These include the biology of cervical metastases of head and neck cancers, the non-operative evaluation and staging of lymph nodes of the neck by a variety of methods, and the treatment of the neck using multiple modalities inclusive of surgery, radiotherapy, and systemic therapy. In addition, it provides the unique consideration of nodal spread from cancers of the head and neck region that arise from a variety of tissue types including mucosal and cutaneous epithelia, thyroid and salivary glands, and neural crest derived melanocytes. A major highlight is the step by step description with accompanying surgical photos that outline the basic steps of each of the major neck dissections used today by head and neck surgeons around the globe. More contemporary topics including i) sentinel lymph node biopsy, ii) surgical quality measures, and iii) functional outcomes and rehabilitation are also covered by experts in these areas.

In summary, Drs. Stack and Moreno have added significant value to our field with their new text titled *Neck Dissection*, which will be particularly useful for head and neck surgical oncologists and trainees in the field, but will also benefit other head and neck oncologists and supportive care providers.

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Preface

The dissection of critical structures of the neck is an integral part of all aspects of head and neck surgery, for both benign and malignant diagnoses of the head, skull base, neck, and cervicothoracic junction. An appreciation for neck anatomy is the foundation for success in executing surgery of the head and neck well. This anatomic understanding, married to fastidious surgical technique and extensive operative experience, can result in excellent outcomes when managing a broad spectrum of head and neck conditions. Moreover, a broad experience with the breadth of head and neck

diseases is essential for comprehensive head and neck surgical care.

It is the aspiration of the editors and authors of this book to present a complete treatment of the topic of neck dissection in its many applications. This book starts from the fundamentals and expands to all possible applications for deploying neck dissections and the procedure's evolution to the current state of the art.

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