
Preface

Minimally invasive techniques have an increasing role in all surgical fields because they result in improved morbidity rates and better aesthetic outcomes. Specifically for the oral and maxillofacial area, these better aesthetic outcomes are of greater importance. Thus, the decision for surgical treatment of facial and oral/dental disorders is not as clear-cut as in many other organ diseases since the decision to operate or not is based not only on functional considerations; the aesthetic considerations are sometimes no less important. The Editor has designed this book focusing on maxillofacial problems relevant for minimally invasive interventions. The Editor intends this book to become an important reference presenting the latest information regarding the management of both common and rare disorders of the maxillofacial area. Internationally renowned physicians and surgeons have provided detailed outlines and discussions on operative techniques and treatments accompanied by rationales for particular approaches advocated by the authors. The topics cover the temporo-mandibular joint arthroscopy, fractures, and lavage; salivary gland endoscopy and minimally invasive techniques for benign parotid tumors; minimally invasive orthognathic surgery and implant surgery; minimally invasive approach to orbital trauma; and general overview of tissue engineering. The description of pathologies includes the preoperative surgical evaluation, decision making, and operative strategies including high quality step-by-step illustrations of the current minimally invasive techniques. Moreover, evolving modern minimally invasive operative techniques like the endoscopic approach to the salivary glands and dental implantation are discussed in this book.

The current edition has been designed primarily to meet the requirements of young surgeons specializing in the oral and maxillofacial areas, who wish to acquire profound knowledge of basic clinical concepts as well as surgical techniques regarding the salivary glands, the diseases and traumas of the temporo-mandibular joint, implant surgery, and various other problems of the maxillofacial area, thus complementing the surgeons' or dental training. These principles are presented together with advancements in technologic, molecular, cellular, and biologic sciences, thus meeting the criteria of the twenty-first century definition of each subspecialty involving care of patients with various diseases of the oral and maxillofacial areas. The preparation of the text material represents an honest attempt to provide information that we

believe is of clinical importance not only to surgeons and dentists but also to oncologists, radiologists, and pathologists dealing with patients with salivary gland diseases, facial and mandibular traumas, distraction osteogenesis, and other disorders.

It is hoped that the reader will find the material in our book as helpful and exciting as we do.

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