

Advancement Of Skull Base Surgery In Posterior Fossa And Craniocervical Junction

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Skull base surgery and in particular surgery of the posterior fossa and the craniocervical junction developed as a separate field in an attempt to unify the activities of different medical specialists to find the optimal treatment of various lesions, developing in the area. The complex structure of this part of the skull base posed the question of what are the most efficient and safest surgical approaches. My personal experience in the field encompasses approximately 40 years, over which I applied all approaches, ranging from the simplest to the most complex ones. Over the years I have been increasingly convinced that whatever the approach is used, it should not be related by itself to any significant approach-related complications or morbidity. With the modifications of some classical approaches that we introduced, we can access and remove safely any lesion of the posterior fossa. The elaboration and introduction of endoscopy allowed for further refinement of the operative technique and avoidance of major and potentially risky approaches.

In the current presentation the historical background but mainly the current state of posterior fossa and craniocervical junction surgery from my perspective will be discussed.