

Radiosurgery as Support for Neurosurgeons, Economy of Medical Care Dollars and Patients' Quality Of Life

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Traditionally Neurosurgery is equated to complex invasion of the central nervous system (CNS) with risk of neurological compromise, long hospital stay, long periods of recovery and certain resistance of the population to accept an intervention in their most dear functional organ. Alike, payers also see Neurosurgery procedures as expensive, dependent on long stay in Intensive Care Unit and patients that will remain needing care for many years to come. To families a procedure in the CNS may represent a major factor of anxiety of losing a functional member of the family. While modern Neurosurgery has in much changed this view, Radiosurgery came to further improve the view of possible resolution with satisfaction of diseases that affect the CNS. Encompassing Neuro-Oncology, Neuro-Vascular, Functional Neurosurgery, Radiosurgery has brought to the neurosurgeon a completely new armamentarium. It has progressively been accepted in the major Neurosurgical Centers. Its place has been established and well understood. Radiosurgery today represents 30% of the Neurosurgery caseload. Dependent on an initial important investment, it has proven to be Medical Dollars saver in many of the most complex diseases of the CNS. Coupled with the prompt return or even non-removal of the patients from their work, it has proven to be of major impact for health economy when Neurosurgery is required and absenteeism is taken into consideration.