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Accessing the inaccessible – Approaching skull base lesions

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Maxillofacial surgery has undergone a significant evolution since 18th century till date. Expansion from maxillofacial to craniomaxillofacial and to head and neck surgery has widened the horizon of maxillofacial practice. But this has also increased challenges in maxillofacial surgery practice. Skull base tumours and their management accommodate great surgical needs for three dimensional assessment and complete removal of tumour. Access osteotomy is a revolutionary practice indicated in accessing pathologies of inaccessible areas like nasopharynx, infratemporal fossa, skull base, base of tongue and para pharyngeal regions. The basis of this conceptual procedure of Access Osteotomy is in accessing these lesions for adequate visualization, complete removal with minimal damage to vital important structures. This presentation gives a brief overview on access osteotomy for skull base lesions and pathologies of para pharyngeal region.

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