ESS Up to Date: ESS for Skull Base Tumor

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Since its first introduction in 1970’s, endoscopic sinus surgery has become the standard surgical procedure for inflammatory sinonasal disease. With increasing experience gained through endoscopic surgery, coupled with significant advances in technology and surgical instruments, the application of endoscopic surgery has been expanded to incorporate sinonasal and skull base tumors.

This will be a comprehensive lecture of endoscopic skull base surgery for various pathologic entities. Factors that has made modern endoscopic skull base surgery possible, such as advances in surgical instruments, will be presented, with highlights in surgical and reconstructive techniques. The results of endoscopic surgery of skull base tumors from our institution will be presented which includes a wide range of benign and malignant tumors.

The endoscopic endonasal approach for skull base tumors has numerous advantages over conventional external approaches. These include an excellent surgical view enabling visualization around corners, avoiding facial incisions and faster recovery, to mention a few. Careful selection of patients and strict abidance to oncologic principles can lead to comparable if not better results to the open approach.