
Preface

This third edition of the *Neurosurgical Operative Atlas: Neuro-Oncology* compiles contemporary manuscripts on the neurosurgical management of central and peripheral nervous system tumors. The content is organized into sections based on the tumor's anatomical locations, types, and surgical approaches. Dedicated sections cover spine and peripheral nerve tumors, meningiomas, and skull base techniques. Most chapters include high-quality illustrations to enhance the reader's understanding of the technical aspects of surgical procedures. Although this book is not intended to be an exhaustive neurosurgical atlas, it aims to provide sufficient guidance for novice neurosurgeons or those with limited experience in surgical neuro-oncology to grasp and apply basic surgical principles.

The field of neurosurgery will undoubtedly continue to advance with the introduction of new technologies and techniques. Experience in skull base surgery, for instance, has provided anatomical insights that have paved the way for the development of less invasive neurosurgical methods.

Similarly, advancements in stereotactic radiation therapy and neuroimaging have had a significant impact on neurosurgery. The refinement and increased availability of these modalities have led to earlier diagnosis of brain tumors, often before they become symptomatic, and have enhanced our ability to address and manage these tumors. These innovations have also transformed our thinking and approach to tumor treatment.

However, future neurosurgeons should not be satisfied with the current standards of care. Although books like this remind us of our technical skills, we still face major challenges in treating the most common and unfortunately most fatal brain tumors. It is our intellect, not just our manual dexterity, that will ultimately enable us to conquer malignant gliomas. Future surgical neuro-oncologists must devise methods to integrate technology and science to deliver specific, targeted therapies for gliomas in a noninvasive manner. Until these breakthroughs are achieved, let books like this continue to guide our hands.

Lisa A. Feldman, MD, PhD

Mike Y. Chen, MD, PhD

Behnam Badie, MD, FACS