

# Endonasal Endoscopic Surgery of Skull Base Tumors: A Comprehensive Guide

Endonasal endoscopic surgery (EES) is a minimally invasive surgical technique used to remove skull base tumors. This approach involves using a small endoscope (a thin, flexible tube with a camera on the end) to visualize the tumor and remove it through the nose. EES is a relatively new technique, but it has quickly become the preferred approach for many skull base tumors because it is less invasive than traditional open surgery and offers a number of other advantages.

## Indications for EES

EES is indicated for the removal of skull base tumors that are located in the anterior or middle cranial fossa. These tumors include:



## Endonasal Endoscopic Surgery of Skull Base Tumors: An Interdisciplinary Approach by Frank-M. Staemmler

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- Pituitary adenomas
- Meningiomas

- Craniopharyngiomas
- Chordomas
- Chondrosarcomas

EES can also be used to treat other conditions of the skull base, such as cerebrospinal fluid leaks and sinusitis.

## **Benefits of EES**

EES offers a number of benefits over traditional open surgery, including:

- **Less invasive:** EES is performed through the nose, which means there is no need for a large incision or craniotomy (opening of the skull).
- **Reduced risk of complications:** EES is associated with a lower risk of complications than open surgery, such as bleeding, infection, and damage to the brain or other structures.
- **Faster recovery time:** EES patients typically recover more quickly than open surgery patients, and they can often go home the same day or the next day after surgery.
- **Improved cosmetic outcomes:** EES does not leave a visible scar, which can be important for patients who are concerned about their appearance.

## **Risks of EES**

As with any surgery, there are some risks associated with EES. These risks include:

- Bleeding

- Infection
- Damage to the brain or other structures
- Cerebrospinal fluid leak
- Nasal congestion or obstruction

The risks of EES are generally low, but they should be discussed with your doctor before surgery.

## Outcomes of EES

The outcomes of EES are generally good. Most patients are able to have their tumor completely removed, and they experience a significant improvement in their symptoms. The long-term survival rates for patients with skull base tumors treated with EES are comparable to those of patients treated with open surgery.

EES is a safe and effective treatment for skull base tumors. This minimally invasive approach offers a number of benefits over traditional open surgery, including a reduced risk of complications, a faster recovery time, and improved cosmetic outcomes. If you are considering treatment for a skull base tumor, talk to your doctor about whether EES is right for you.



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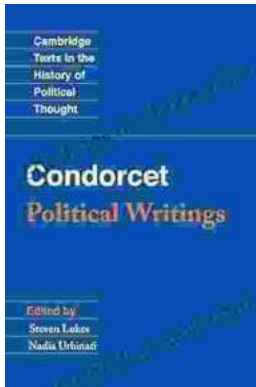
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