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Preface

The main objective of this book is to give the reader very concise and useful information on what should and should not be done when dealing with specific diagnostic and therapeutic situations in head and neck surgery. This is not a conventional textbook, containing a comprehensive collection of all material available, nor is it an atlas of anatomy or surgical techniques. Instead, a highly selected group of top world experts was invited to share their personal experiences about key subjects in the different areas of our specialty. All agreed to discuss, in a very succinct chapter, their view, emphasizing useful tips and particularly warning against potentially hazardous pitfalls that could affect the diagnosis and treatment of our patients. Moreover, all contributors were asked to recommend practical guidelines to help all of us in our everyday practice.

The different sections of this book include the vast majority of the diseases encountered by the head and neck surgeon in his or her everyday practice: (1) thyroid and parathyroid glands; (2) neck metastases; (3) oral and oropharyngeal tumors; (4) laryngeal tumors; (5) hypopharyngeal cancer; (6) nasopharyngeal cancer; (7) salivary gland tumors; (8) skull base tumors; (9) vascular tumors; (10) congenital tumors; (11) parapharyngeal space tumors; (12) infections of the head and neck; (13) tracheotomy; (14) reconstruction, and (15) miscellaneous.

I would like to thank all authors for their efforts to efficiently address their respective subjects in the limited space available. I believe that they have done a terrific job.

I would like to extend my deep gratitude to the co-editors Dan Fliss, MD, Eugene N. Myers, MD, Fernando L. Dias, MD, Roberto A. Lima, MD and William I. Wei, MD, whose participation was vital for this book, not only because of the number and quality of their contribution but also because of their invaluable suggestions concerning revisions, topics and authors.

Also, I would like to thank the publishers Steven Karger (in memoriam) and Thomas Karger, who believed in this project and have made it reality. My special recognition goes to Mrs. Elisabeth Anyawike, the extremely efficient Production Editor who assisted me in dealing with all the difficulties during the editing process.

Finally, my eternal gratitude goes to my beloved wife, Selma S. Cernea, MD, for her serenity, patience and support.

Claudio R. Cernea, São Paulo