The human head is without doubt the most complex anatomical portion of the human body. It is affected by a vast array of developmental conditions, malformations, and diseases. The number of medical practitioners (dentists, maxillofacial surgeons, craniofacial surgeons, neurosurgeons, otorhinolaryngologists, ophthalmologists, and plastic surgeons) that specialize in this area of the body attests to its complexity. Each specialized group has its unique compilation of facts in its own publications, with its own diagnostic criteria and surgical procedures. They practice independently, often with little knowledge of the other medical specialties, and information about other subspecialties can only be obtained by an extensive search of various sources.

The anatomic area treated by oral and maxillofacial surgeons is intimately related to the paranasal sinuses, and diseases that affect one area may extend to the other. In addition, the paranasal sinuses are involved in midface maxillofacial trauma as well as in orthognathic, craniofacial, and certain implant surgical procedures. Nasal anatomy and function are often altered by maxillary orthognathic surgery and function of the paranasal sinuses by trauma. For this reason, we believed that it would be a good idea for the oral and maxillofacial surgeon to become familiar with surgical procedures performed on the paranasal sinuses and indications for the procedures. This would allow us to educate our patients better on surgical options when such need arises. To cover the subject adequately, topics on surgical anatomy, radiology, physical exam, microbiology, pathology, and medical conditions such as rhinitis had to be included. We also took the editorial privilege of including closely related topics such as epistaxis.
and frontal sinus fractures, in addition to not so closely related topics such as an update on cancer management, throat infection, and salivary gland surgery.

We have tried to combine experienced clinicians with younger writers to get a diversity of opinions. We believed that this would give exposure to younger clinicians as well as provide the reader with different thought processes and therapeutic approaches that may result in better patient care. We express our sincerest thanks and appreciation to all the writers who contributed to this issue, and we hope that their efforts will lead to a better understanding of this complex region.

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