Preface

Evaluation of the Surgical Margin: An Interdisciplinary Approach

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Editors

The aim of this issue of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics of North America is to provide an interdisciplinary perspective on the study of the surgical margin as it relates to a spectrum of disease processes affecting the head and neck. There is much debate as to what is considered a “negative” surgical margin in the oncology literature. The reported final margin status will ultimately affect the clinical decision of the treating surgeon with regards to re-treatment or recommendation for adjuvant therapies. To improve accuracy and clarity of the final margin status, both the surgeon and the pathologist must understand the interdisciplinary perspective, particularly limitations of surgical technique and/or pathologic examination as it relates to the surgical margin.

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