

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PREOPERATIVE VENOUS ANATOMY STUDY IN PLANNING SKULL BASE APPROACHES TO TREAT CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM TUMORS

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The technical difficulty of using the skull base approaches and the likelihood of encountering venous complications depend on the particular temporal venous anatomy. To reduce such potential risks, neurosurgeons must have adequate knowledge of the variations in the anatomy of the temporal venous drainage system, particularly of the temporal bridging veins. Based on this, a detailed preoperative study of the drainage pattern of the superficial venous system is paramount to decide the best approach to treat central nervous system tumors. The purpose of this study is present our current approach regarding this issue in our patients. A brief review of the superficial venous anatomy is presented and the imaging methods are discussed.