Preface

Advances in Endocrine Surgery

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Editor

This issue of Surgical Oncology Clinics of North America presents the latest advances in the field of endocrine surgery. Endocrine surgery is the field defined by operative treatment of a variety of benign and malignant neoplasms of the thyroid gland, the parathyroid glands, the adrenal glands, the pancreas, and the gut neuroendocrine tissue. Advances in molecular genetics, hormone assays, and minimally invasive techniques have significantly changed the practice of endocrine surgery over the past decade. Articles in this issue are authored by several national experts across the country who have been instrumental to the development of recent advances in the field of endocrine surgery.

Thyroid cancer is the most common neoplasm treated by endocrine surgeons. Major changes in the molecular genetics available by commercial laboratories in the past three years have very defined likelihood of malignancy in previous lesions with indeterminate cytology. Management of lymph nodes as well as new aspects of postoperative treatment is presented as well. Controversial areas in the treatment of hyperparathyroidism include when to operate, how to use intraoperative parathyroid hormone (PTH) measurements, and what operation to perform, and all of these are described by leaders in the field. There have been several advances in the molecular genetics of pheochromocytomas and paragangliomas that affect both diagnosis and treatment. The operative approach for benign and malignant disease is discussed. Gut and pancreas neuroendocrine tumors reflect a disease that is increasing markedly in incidence in the United States, and the diagnosis, imaging, and surgical treatment are addressed.

This issue of Surgical Oncology Clinics of North America covers a wide range of topics that represent the most important advances in the field of endocrine surgery.
over the past ten years for surgery of the thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal, and pancreas or gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors.

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