Ballenger’s
Otorhinolaryngology
Head and Neck Surgery
Sixteenth Edition

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# Contents

**OTOLOGY AND NEUROTOLOGY  James B. Snow Jr, MD**

1. **Anatomy of the Auditory and Vestibular Systems**  
   *Richard R. Gacek, MD, Mark R. Gacek, MD*  
   1

2. **Development of the Ear**  
   *Doris K-W. Wu, PhD, Daniel I. Choo, MD*  
   25

3. **Molecular Biology of Hearing and Balance**  
   *Allen F. Ryan, PhD, David J. Lim, MD*  
   38

4. **Physiology of the Auditory and Vestibular Systems**  
   *Brenda L. Lonsbury-Martin, PhD, Glen K. Martin, PhD, Anne E. Luebke, PhD*  
   68

5. **Diagnostic Audiology, Hearing Aids, and Habilitation Options**  
   *James W. Hall III, PhD, M. Samantha Lewis, MA*  
   134

6. **Evaluation of the Vestibular (Balance) System**  
   *Neil T. Shepard, PhD, David Solomon, MD, PhD, Michael Ruckenstein, MD, Jeffery Staab, MD*  
   161

7. **Imaging of the Temporal Bone**  
   *Galdino E. Valvassori, MD*  
   195

8. **Diseases of the External Ear**  
   *Timothy T. K. Jung, MD, PhD, Tae Yoon Jinn, MD*  
   230

9. **Otitis Media and Middle Ear Effusions**  
   *Gerald B. Healy, MD, Kristina W. Rosbe, MD*  
   249

10. **Chronic Otitis Media**  
    *Steven A. Telian, MD, Cecelia E. Schmalbach, MD*  
    261
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Cranial and Intracranial Complications of Acute and Chronic Otitis Media</td>
<td>Lee A. Harker, MD</td>
<td>294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Otosclerosis</td>
<td>Herman A. Jenkins, MD, Omid Abbassi, MD, PhD</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Hereditary Hearing Impairment</td>
<td>Richard J. H. Smith, MD, Stephen W. Hone, MD</td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Trauma to the Middle Ear, Inner Ear, and Temporal Bone</td>
<td>Mitchell K. Schwaber, MD</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Occupational Hearing Loss</td>
<td>Peter W. Alberti, MB, PhD</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Ototoxicity</td>
<td>Leonard P. Rybak, MD, John Touliatos, MD</td>
<td>374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Idiopathic Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss</td>
<td>Robert A. Dobie, MD</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Perilymphatic Fistulae</td>
<td>Robert I. Kohut, MD</td>
<td>388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Autoimmune Inner Ear Disease</td>
<td>Jeffrey P. Harris, MD, PhD, Elizabeth M. Keithley, PhD</td>
<td>396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Meniere's Disease, Vestibular Neuronitis, Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo, and Cerebellopontine Angle Tumors</td>
<td>Jacob Johnson, MD, Anil K. Lalwani, MD</td>
<td>408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Presbyacusis</td>
<td>John H. Mills, PhD, Paul R. Lambert, MD</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Tinnitus and Hyperacusis</td>
<td>Pawel J. Jastreboff, PhD, ScD, Margaret M. Jastreboff, PhD</td>
<td>456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Cochlear Implants</td>
<td>Richard T. Miyamoto, MD, Karen Iler Kirk, PhD</td>
<td>476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Facial Paralysis</td>
<td>Phillip A. Wackym, MD, John S. Rhee, MD</td>
<td>489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Surgery of the Skull Base</td>
<td>Richard J. Wiet, MD, Richard Hoistad, MD</td>
<td>521</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RHINOLOGY  John Jacob Ballenger, MD

26  Anatomy and Physiology of the Nose and Paranasal Sinuses  
    John Jacob Ballenger, MD  547

27  Olfaction and Gustation  
    Richard L. Doty, PhD, Steven M. Bromley, MD  561

28  Cellular Biology of the Immune System  
    Joel M. Bernstein, MD, PhD  592

29  Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome  
    Frank E. Lucente, MD, Samir Shah, MD, Jeffrey Vierra, MD  624

30  Etiology of Infectious Diseases of the Upper Respiratory Tract  
    John L. Boone, MD  633

31  Imaging of the Nasal Cavities, Paranasal Sinuses, Nasopharynx, Orbits, Infratemporal Fossa, Pterygomaxillary Fissure, Parapharyngeal Space, and Base of the Skull  
    Mahmood F. Mafee, MD  654

32  Allergic Rhinitis  
    Jayant M. Pinto, MD, Robert M. Naclerio, MD  708

33  Acute and Chronic Nasal Disorders  
    Valerie J. Lund, MS, FRCS, FRCS(Ed)  741

34  Sinusitis and Polyposis  
    Andrew P. Lane, MD, David W. Kennedy, MD  760

35  Headache and Facial Pain  
    James M. Hartman, MD, Richard A. Chole, MD, PhD  788

36  Neoplasms of the Nose and Paranasal Sinuses  
    Ara A. Chalian, MD, David Litman, MD  807

FACIAL PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY  M. Eugene Tardy Jr, MD

37  Reconstruction of the Outstanding Ear  
    Daniel G. Becker, MD, Stephen Y. Lai, MD, PhD  828

38  Nasal Reconstruction and Rhinoplasty  
    M. Eugene Tardy Jr, MD  842
39  Facial Fractures
    Paul J. Donald, MD, Jonathan M. Sykes, MD

40  Reconstruction of the Maxilla and Mandible
    David Reiter, MD, DMD

41  Flaps and Grafts in the Head and Neck
    Jane Y. Yang, MD, Marc R. Rosen, MD, William M. Keane, MD

PEDIATRIC OTOLARYNGOLOGY  James B. Snow Jr, MD

42  Microtia, Canal Atresia, and Middle Ear Anomalies
    Simon C. Parisier, MD, Jose N. Fayad, MD, Charles P. Kimmelman, MD

43  Anatomy and Physiology of the Oral Cavity and Pharynx
    Louis D. Lowry, MD, Selcuk Onart, MD

44  Diseases of the Oral Cavity, Oropharynx, and Nasopharynx
    Lawrence W. C. Tom, MD, Ian N. Jacobs, MD

45  Congenital Anomalies of the Larynx
    Rodney P. Lusk, MD

46  Congenital Anomalies of the Head and Neck
    Lee D. Rowe, MD

LARYNGOLOGY  H. Bryan Neel III, MD, PhD

47  Anatomy and Physiology of the Larynx
    Clarence T. Sasaki, MD, Young-Ho Kim, MD, PhD

48  Development of the Larynx
    Ronan O’Rahilly, MD, DSc, Fabiola Müller, Dr habil rer nat

49  Disorders of Voice, Speech, and Language
    Fred D. Minifie, PhD

50  Airway Control and Laryngotracheal Stenosis in Adults
    Joseph C. Sniezek, MD, Brian B. Burkey, MD
51  Trauma to the Larynx
    Peak Woo, MD, Philip Passalaqua, MD

52  Infectious and Inflammatory Diseases of the Larynx
    James A. Koufman, MD, Peter C. Belafsky, MD, PhD

53  Neurogenic and Functional Disorders of the Larynx
    Christy L. Ludlow, PhD, Eric A. Mann, MD, PhD

54  Neoplasms of the Larynx and Laryngopharynx
    Robert A. Weisman, MD, Kris S. Moe, MD, Lisa A. Orloff, MD

HEAD AND NECK SURGERY  Robert H. Ossoff, MD

55  Cancer Immunology
    Scott E. Strome, MD, Ray O. Gustafson, MD, H. Bryan Neel III, MD, PhD

56  Molecular Biology of Squamous Cell Carcinoma
    Carter Van Waes, MD, PhD

57  Chemotherapy for Head and Neck Cancer
    Bruce Brockstein, MD, Janardan D. Khandekar, MD

58  Nutrition of the Head and Neck Patient
    Laurence J. DiNardo, MD, Elizabeth G. Miller, RD

59  Imaging of the Oral Cavity, Pharynx, Larynx, Trachea, Salivary Glands, and Neck
    Mahmood F. Mafee, MD

60  Neoplasms of the Nasopharynx
    Frank G. Ondrey, MD, PhD, Simon K. Wright, MD

61  Neoplasms of the Oral Cavity and Oropharynx
    Dennis H. Kraus, MD, John K. Joe, MD

62  Diseases of the Salivary Glands
    William R. Carroll, MD, C. Elliott Morgan, DMD, MD

63  Diseases of the Thyroid and Parathyroid Glands
    Robert A. Hendrix, MD

64  Laser Surgery in the Head and Neck
    Lou Reinisch, PhD, Robert H. Ossoff, MD
viii  Ballenger's Otorhinolaryngology

BRONCHOESOPHAGOLOGY  James S. Reilly, MD

65  Introduction to Peroral Endoscopy
    Ellen S. Deutsch, MD, Jane Y. Yang, MD, James S. Reilly, MD

66  Laryngoscopy
    Ellen S. Deutsch, MD, Jane Y. Yang, MD, James S. Reilly, MD

67  Bronchoesophagology
    Jane Y. Yang, MD, Ellen S. Deutsch, MD, James S. Reilly, MD

INDEX

1511
1537
1549
1578
Foreword

This edition of Ballenger’s Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery continues in the tradition of being a comprehensive compendium of current knowledge in the fields of otology/neurotology, rhinology, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, pediatric otorhinolaryngology, laryngology, head and neck surgery, and bronchoesophagology. The informational content for the 16th edition has been reorganized into 67 chapters with new sections on facial plastic and reconstructive surgery and pediatric otorhinolaryngology. More than half of the authors are new to the book, and another third of the chapters have been redesigned to address major developments in the topical areas. The content reflects the central responsibility of the otorhinolaryngologist in treating patients with diseases affecting the senses of smell, taste, and balance and with disorders of human communication affecting hearing, voice, speech, and language. The presentation of basic science underlying clinical otorhinolaryngology head and neck surgery has been expanded, and chapters on clinical topics have been structured to provide comprehensive coverage to meet the needs of practitioners in the twenty-first century.

The 64 senior authors have been chosen not only for their contribution to new knowledge to their topics through highly regarded research but also for their intellectual leadership of the specialty and, thereby, are truly authoritative in the subject matter of their chapters.

Both the basic science and clinical chapters stress the important role of molecular biology in understanding the pathogenesis of disease. Throughout the book, the genetic basis of disease is emphasized. This book provides students, residents, fellows, and practitioners with the understanding necessary to participate fully in the coming role of molecular biology in therapy.

James B. Snow, Jr, MD
Preface

Ballenger’s Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery is in its 94th year in this sixteenth edition. It has been in continuous use since 1908, when my great-uncle, William Lincoln Ballenger, brought out the first edition. My father, Howard Charles Ballenger, succeeded my great-uncle as editor, and in 1957, I succeeded my father. I am greatly pleased to have James B. Snow Jr. as coeditor. This reorganized and revitalized version is much to the credit of his leadership and forward-looking enthusiasm. We are delighted to have BC Decker Inc as the book’s new publisher.

This new edition, as in the past, is enriched by the outstanding contributions of 118 distinguished scholars and practitioners, all of whom have written on their special interests. I extend my gratitude to each of them as well as their medical artists and illustrators, whose work clarifies the text. The contributors are drawn mainly from the United States but from several other countries as well.

The general format is to present an accurate picture of normal anatomy and physiology as a basis for the understanding of altered conditions that underlie diseases and their symptoms and signs. I believe that this book will be of great value to all studying this specialty and to other specialists seeking an authoritative reference.

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