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Recurrence of a complex anterior skull base tumor managed with an uncommon surgical approach

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A well 74-year-old woman presented to routine ophthalmology clinic instituted following treatment of a frontoethmoidal sarcoma initially excised in 1989 and diagnosed then as a sinus mucosal melanoma. At review in ophthalmology clinic, a reduction in right visual fields was noted. CT scan showed recurrence of a mass now involving the frontoethmoidal region, frontal sinus and abutting the cribriform plate. Endoscopic biopsy confirmed the recurrence as a low-grade biphenotypic sarcoma. This was discussed at the sarcoma multidisciplinary meeting. Using a three-dimensional printed model of the patients skull for planning, primary surgery with craniofacial resection combining intracranial and transfacial approaches with reconstruction was decided on. The implications of no treatment would be tumor involvement of the dura and brain as well as the right only-seeing eye. Craniofacial surgery would involve otolaryngological, neurosurgical and maxillofacial multispecialty involvement and close teamwork. The goal was en bloc excision with negative surgical margins.

Biography

He grew up in Karachi, Pakistan and moved to UK aged 18 to study medicine at Trinity College, Oxford. After graduation, he moved to Manchester University teaching Hospital for Two years of foundation training. During this time he successfully secured an competitive Otolaryngology themed "Core Surgical Training Post" which he is now completing in New Castel University of Teaching Hospitals. His aim is to be an Otolaryngologist.