

Oral and maxillofacial surgery is a unique specialty that is often considered a bridge between the disciplines of medicine and dentistry. As the breadth and scope of this field are vast and ever expanding, we compiled this book with the aim of comprehensively and holistically defining the epidemiologic, diagnostic, clinicopathologic, and therapeutic characteristics of salivary gland disease. Surgery or other treatments for various salivary gland diseases require all-round planning and expertise owing to the complexity of the structures involved, as these determine the optimal function and aesthetic outcomes in patients.

We have also included in this book a brief summary of the key aspects of facial development. The processes of normal oral and maxillofacial growth are outlined prior to the descriptions of salivary gland diseases. Understanding the growth and formation of head and neck structures from embryological development through puberty is a prerequisite for grasping the etiopathogenesis of salivary gland diseases and is helpful for refining treatment strategies and procedures.

Salivary gland tumors primarily originate from the epithelial cells of the salivary glands, which include the parotid, submandibular, and sublingual glands, along with the minor salivary glands distributed throughout the oral cavity. These tumors arise due to the abnormal proliferation and differentiation of the glandular epithelial cells. For treating these lesions, different therapeutic modalities have been developed and are described in the literature. However, despite a consensus being reached in a portion of these diseases, the nature and proper treatment of the majority of them remain controversial. Thus, a further aim of this book is to provide an update on the latest knowledge in the field regarding the array of treatment options and to discuss the complexity of various surgical treatments and their potential impact on patient outcomes. The third purpose of this book is to outline the practical and rational clinical guidelines for the management of salivary gland diseases in terms of benign tumor, malignant tumors, and nonneoplastic epithelial lesions. The most common salivary gland tumor is pleomorphic adenoma (also known as a benign mixed tumor), which typically occurs in the parotid gland but can also develop in other salivary glands. The primary treatment for pleomorphic adenoma is surgery, whose objective is the complete removal of the tumor along with a margin of surrounding healthy tissue to reduce the risk of recurrence.

This book was prepared particularly for those in the medical, surgical, and related specialties who manage and research salivary gland diseases. The first chapter begins with a comprehensive review of the basic science of salivary glands, and each subsequent chapter comprises a detailed but concise discussion of the epidemiology, etiology, pathogenesis, clinical presentations, imaging findings, treatment, and prognosis of gland lesions. The exemplary clinical scenarios provided, with complete clinical information and related illustrations, are invaluable for medical students and junior surgeons, as these can serve as a visual aid when future clinical challenges arise. Additionally, the book functions as a handy refresher and comprehensive guide for experienced clinicians who can use the book for thorough review. The illustrations provided are also accompanied by concise bullet points, which are ideally suited for quick scanning and prompt retrieval in a busy practice. We do hope that the clinicians who read this book will find the illustrations and treatment strategies to be valuable additions to their surgical armamentarium and that this will ultimately benefit patients. We would also be extremely pleased if this book fulfils its desired aim of defining the current state of knowledge in the oral and maxillofacial specialty.

At last, on behalf of the whole editorial team, I would love to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Masahiko Mori for his great support and help to shape the contents of the two books, *Odontogenic and Maxillofacial Bone Disorders* and *Salivary Gland Tumors*. His passing away is a great loss to us. May his legacy endure as a beacon of innovation and integrity in oral healthcare.

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