

THE PARADIGM OF SKULL BASE APPROACHES TO TREAT CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM TUMORS: PART III:
THE SKULL BASE RECONSTRUCTION

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One of the biggest problems after skull base surgery occurs when the intracranial space cannot be isolated from the adjacent areas. To address this, along with the evolution of skull base surgery, there has been a great evolution in the reconstruction techniques to the skull base. The anatomy of the skull base is described with classification into the anterior, medial and posterior skull base. The purpose of the authors is to describe local skull base reconstruction techniques in a neurosurgical patients series (15 patients) performed by one neurosurgeon and review the literature regarding skull base vascularization, grafts and myocutaneous flap. The various methods of reconstruction based on the principle of the reconstructive ladder are described, starting with synthetics and free grafts to myocutaneous flaps. Our series shows that skull base reconstruction techniques are paramount to avoid postoperative complications in the surgical field, as well as, decrease the high level of complications such as LCR leak and infection described when this armamentarium is not used.