

Introduction

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Neurological surgery, although a relatively young specialty, encompasses a wide range of clinical conditions and problems. The neurosurgeon still spends considerable time treating pain, tumors, vascular lesions, and increased intracranial pressure. In addition, he encounters movement disorders, the epilepsies, spinal disorders, and other diseases of the nervous system.

The seven papers in this issue of the *Cleveland Clinic Quarterly* focus on the management of pain, hemifacial spasm, intracranial meningiomas, and cluster headaches. Simplified surgical treatment of pituitary apoplexy is described. Of particular interest for the clinician, the educator, and the administrator is the paper describing a new concept in total patient care—the neurosurgical nurse as a “physician expander.”

It is hoped that this group of papers will give the reader a perspective on some of the neurosurgeon’s interests.