Preface

Treatment of children with head and neck tumors exemplifies the complex multidisciplinary care that defines modern pediatric practice. From benign to malignant conditions, each tumor and each patient requires a dedicated team of specialists that understand the disease and define the best course of action, applying the most effective treatments that maximize cure options with minimal adverse effects. Accomplishing these goals requires seamless integration of many disciplines, including pathology, diagnostic and interventional radiology, otorhinolaryngology, skull base, plastic and ocular surgery, and pediatric and radiation oncology.

The Head and Neck Tumors Program at Boston Children’s Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute was formed to provide a well-integrated team approach to children with those complex and often devastating diseases. In this book, we have invited a team of experts from our program to share their knowledge in the diagnosis and management of the tumors that we encounter in our practice. We would like this book to be an A to Z practical guide that provides concise reviews and treatment recommendations for the different tumors.

This work represents the efforts of many. We would like to thank all our colleagues who have so generously shared their expertise and their time, and the editors who have so patiently helped us in this process. Most of all, we are grateful to our patients and their families, whose courage and determination inspire us to continue to work, to learn, and to advance our knowledge in the treatment of these disorders.

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