

Preface

## Interventional Neuroradiology



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*Guest Editors*

Interventional neuroradiology (INR) procedures are being performed with increasing frequency, both in the angiography suite and in the operating room. These therapies complement and in some cases replace more conventional surgeries of the brain and spine. Although fluoroscopically guided approaches to diseases of the nervous system have existed for decades, their use has grown exponentially in the past several years. Potential reasons for this phenomenon include:

- Recent technical innovations and ongoing device/instrumentation enhancements
- Aggressive marketing campaigns by manufacturers of these devices
- The enfranchisement of neurosurgeons, orthopedic surgeons, and other nonradiologist practitioners
- The growing number of neurosurgeons with hybrid training in INR techniques
- An ever-aging population with commensurate increases in the incidence of diseases best treated by these methods
- The pervasive trend toward therapeutic minimalism

This issue of the *Neurosurgery Clinics of North America* surveys the background, present application, and prospects of several INR procedures. The spectrum of disorders that can be treated with these techniques (ischemic stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage, vertebral compression fractures, and so forth) is a testimony to the impact of INR therapy and supports its role in the future of neurosurgery.

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