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Preface

Spontaneous intracranial hemorrhage

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Guest Editor

Perhaps no other disease that falls under the purview of neurosurgery combines the prevalence, morbidity, and paucity of clinical and laboratory research as does spontaneous intracranial hemorrhage (ICH). Although comprising only 15% of all strokes, ICH is responsible for the majority of morbidity and mortality in this patient population. No other neurosurgical disease garners as little interest both clinically or in the research laboratory. Moreover, the tremendous technical advances in cerebrovascular and endovascular neurosurgery have not produced parallel improvements in the treatment of intracranial hemorrhage.

The articles in this issue of the *Neurosurgery Clinics of North America* review the current state of knowledge of the epidemiology, pathophysiology, and diagnostic imaging of ICH. They also explore the role of the ICU in the care and surgical management of these patients. The controversy and uncertainty surrounding the role of medical and surgical therapy is developed, in addition to the options available for minimally invasive surgical treatment. Finally, a summary of current experimental models will hopefully instill a desire to pursue much-needed research of this devastating disease.

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