

Petroclival region

The petroclival region is a small [cisternal](#) space located in the most anterior part of the [posterior cranial fossa](#).

It is defined by complex osteomeningeal edges but at the top, it opens onto the supratentorial sector, at the bottom onto the peribulbar area, and behind onto the area of the [cerebellopontine angle](#).

Numerous surgical approaches have been developed to access the petroclival region. The [Kawase approach](#), through the middle fossa, is a well-described option for addressing cranial base lesions of the petroclival region.

Early attempts to expose this region consisted primarily of an extended [suboccipital craniectomy](#), with opening of the [tentorium](#) and ligation of the [sigmoid sinus](#) for additional exposure. During the 1960s, technological innovations including the surgical [microscope](#) and the pneumatic drill allowed surgeons to gain additional exposure by removing more bone from the [skull base](#). This let surgeons define combined infra- and [supratentorial approaches](#), which rely less on [brain retraction](#) to resect these difficult tumors successfully. These approaches rely on a combined posterior [mastoid approach](#) with an anterior [petrosectomy](#) ¹⁾.

see [Sphenopetroclival region](#)

see [Petroclival tumor](#)

¹⁾

Grossi PM, Nonaka Y, Watanabe K, Fukushima T. The history of the combined supra- and infratentorial approach to the petroclival region. *Neurosurg Focus*. 2012 Aug;33(2):E8. doi: 10.3171/2012.6.FOCUS12141. PubMed PMID: 22853839.

From:

<https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/> - **Neurosurgery Wiki**

Permanent link:

https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/doku.php?id=petroclival_region

Last update: **2024/06/07 02:55**

