

The transcisternal route consists of the following three approaches: 1) anterior interhemispheric transcallosal approach, which exposes the anterior and superior thalamus; 2) posterior interhemispheric transcallosal approach, which exposes the posterosuperior thalamus; and 3) supracerebellar infratentorial approach, which exposes the posteromedial cisternal thalamus and can be extended laterally to approach the posterolateral thalamus by cutting the tentorium. The three transcortical approaches are the 1) superior parietal lobule approach, which exposes the posterosuperior thalamus and is particularly advantageous in the setting of hydrocephalus; 2) transtemporal gyrus approach, which exposes the inferolateral thalamus; and 3) transsylvian transinsular approach, which exposes the lateral thalamus (slightly more superiorly and posteriorly) and is advantageous for pathologies extending laterally into the peduncle, lenticular nucleus, or insula.

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