Frame based to Frameless Stereotactic Neuro-Surgery

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Abstract

Stereotactic surgery is a technique used for diagnosis and treatment of brain tumors. This paper gives survey on evaluation of art and science of neuro-surgery and proposes the need of stereotaxy to replace the outmoded conventional surgery. Stereotaxy makes use of a system of three-dimensional coordinates to locate a site (usually within the brain) with high precision for conducting biopsy or surgery. The evolution of frame to frameless stereotaxy till its current form has been explained. The paper gives a detailed account of how the imaging and image processing software has complimented the advances in neuro-navigation based stereotactic surgery. The important contributions and developments in the past and the current practices in the area of neuro-navigation and registration techniques have been presented in this paper. The development in the author's laboratory on robotics based stereotactic surgery has been discussed.

Keywords: Frame and Frameless Stereotaxy, Neuro-Navigation, Robots for Surgery

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