SPHENOID SINUS

- A LARGE CAVITY SITUATED IN THE BODY OF THE SPHENOID BONE
- DIVIDED INTO RIGHT & LEFT HALVES by a complete bony septum usually bent to one side -> EACH HALF HAS BEEN REFERRED TO AS THE SPHENOID SINUS
- Formation of the sinus begins in the 5th month of intrauterine life as a recess of the nasal cavity but does not extend into the body of the sphenoid until the 7th year.
- Both sinuses have important relationships ABOVE, BELOW, IN FRONT & LATERALLY.

ABOVE THE SPHENOID SINUS

- the pituitary body & the optic nerve are found -> @ times forming a ridge inside the sinus.
- THIS CLOSE RELATIONSHIP CAUSES THE OPTIC NERVE TO BE INVOLVED SPHENOID -> rise to sudden loss of vision (RETROBULBAR NEURITIS)

BELLOW bounded below by the nose

IN FRONT
- wall of the sinus separates it from the ethmoid air cells

LATERALLY
- cavernous sinuses containing the ICA & THE 6th NERVE ARE LOCATED.
- MAYBE INVOLVED IN DISEASE OF THE SPHENOID SINUS, WHICH IS CONSIDERED A "DANGER SPOT" IN THE SKULL BECAUSE OF THESE IMPORTANT SURROUNDINGS:
  1) FRONTAL
  2) PALATINE
  3) SPHENOID BONES
  4) SUPERIOR MAXILLA
- HAVE BEEN DIVIDED ARBITRARILY INTO 3 SETS:
  1) ANTERIOR ETHMOID SINUSES
  2) MIDDLE ETHMOID SINUSES
  3) POSTERIOR SINUSES

ANTERIOR ETHMOID SINUSES

- open into the middle meatus on the floor of the hiatus semilunaris

MIDDLE ETHMOID SINUSES

- open into the middle meatus on the surface of the bulla ethmoidalis

POSTERIOR SINUSES

- into the superior maxillae

Above the ethmoid sinuses are the MENINGES & THE FRONTAL CONVOLUTIONS OF THE ANTERIOR CRANIAL FOSSA:

IN THE ORBIT:

- IS the SPHENOID BONE, BELOW the sphenoid sinus

LATERALLY, THE ORBIT

1. Ethmoid cells in each ethmoid may vary from 4 large cells to 17 small ones, the average number being 9.

ETHMOID SINUSES (CELLS)

- are from 8-10 very thin walled intercommunicating cavities occupying the greater part of the ethmoid labyrinth and known as the ETHMOID SINUSES.
- BOUNDARIES OF THESE SINUSES ARE COMPLETED BY THE:
  1) FRONTAL
  2) PALATINE
  3) SPHENOID BONES
  4) SUPERIOR MAXILLA

SOFT TISSUES:

- Skin plays a critical role in the appearance of the nose. Closely adherent to the underlying alar cartilages but loosely attached and mobile over the upper lateral cartilages and nasal bones.
- Of particular importance is the quality of skin of the nasal tip and lobule.
  - Normally, the tip of the skin contains many sebaceous glands which decrease in number over the lateral cartilages. Skin can either be thick or thin; or may be padded with considerable layer of subcutaneous fat. Increase sebaceous glands and SQ fat -> skin unipliable.

NASAL BODY FRAMEWORK:

- Framework of pyramidal external structure of the nose is formed by the paired nasal bones which project from the nasal process of frontal bone superiorly and nasal (frontal) processes of maxilla laterally.

CARTILAGES OF THE NOSE:

(A) Septal cartilage (Quadrangular cartilage)