Operative care considerations 7, 11

Preoperative considerations

- · Upper airway obstruction
- · Respiratory dysfunction
- · Spinal cord compression
- · Intubation/extubation planning

Intraoperative considerations

- Risks/benefits of mask ventilation or awake fiber optic induction with spontaneous ventilation
- · Neurophysiological monitoring
- Body positioning (head and neck should be carefully maintained in the neutral position such that clavicles are aligned with the external auditory meatus)

Postoperative considerations

- · Early extubation when possible
- Close monitoring for airway and pulmonary edema
- · Monitoring need for reintubation
- Availability of emergency tracheostomy at any time
- Extubation only after patient is fully awake and has full return of motor power