

PREFACE

Bladder Cancer: Current Diagnosis and Treatment has been designed to present state-of-the-art information on and understanding of the many aspects of bladder cancer that factor into decisions regarding its assessment and treatment. The guiding byword in this is the term “*understanding*,” and the authors were thus asked to encapsulate their comprehensive knowledge of their specific topics, offer their critical perspectives on the ever increasing amount of fresh data, and provide their insights regarding precisely what meaningfully advances our knowledge and understanding of bladder cancer.

The critical task in working toward this objective was to identify those who could provide all of these attributes—knowledge, perspective, and insight—in addressing the various areas that comprise this volume. In addition, because a substantial number of issues might still be unresolved, or in many instances be controversial, an attempt was made to recruit contributors who might offer differing perspectives on a given topic. This permitted an exposition on both sides of a given issue. Although this made the draft of each chapter a more onerous undertaking, the final result was a more complete compendium of reliably and objectively presented information.

I am indebted to each of our contributors for having undertaken their assignments with enthusiasm and with a productive application of their uniquely valuable knowledge and perspectives. To those who tired of my frequent calls and obsessive editing, I apologize. I do hope, however, that the final product reflects the focused attention and tremendous effort that was invested.

I am grateful to each contributor for having educated me to an extent that I had not anticipated. It is now time to share this with our readership with the hope that the information contained in *Bladder Cancer: Current Diagnosis and Treatment* will prove useful both as an information base and as a stimulant for further study.

Finally, I am grateful to Dr. Eric Klein of the Department of Urology, the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, for having permitted me to organize and edit this monograph; and to Mr. Paul Doltger, Craig Adams, and the Humana Press for all of their assistance in bringing this project to fruition.

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