

Preface

Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) is the most common neoplastic condition afflicting men and constitutes a major health factor impacting patients in every part of the world. Bladder neck obstruction secondary to BPH can result in significant medical complications including renal failure, urinary retention, recurrent urinary tract infection, bladder stones, significant hematuria, and marked and disruptive bladder symptoms. Current studies estimate that upwards of 30% of males will require some type of surgical or other significant intervention to correct this problem sometime in their lives. Because there is a major restructuring of the treatment algorithms used to manage this important clinical problem and because of new medications and advances in technology, a great need for *Management of Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy* has arisen.

How best to approach patients is a common question posed by urologists. What is to be made of these newer therapies, and what are their roles vis-à-vis our more established treatments? *Management of Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy* is designed to address those needs for the practicing urologist who is often caught in the middle of these newer therapies and confused by the significant hype. Despite this clear need for interpretation of new data, a text that is not grounded in the principles and hallmarks of our specialty will offer little to budding urologists; rather, this text serves as a single source for quick reference on most aspects of this broad spectrum of BPH treatments.

Management of Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy is divided into three main categories: (1) pathophysiology and natural history of BPH, (2) epidemiology: definitions and prevalence of the disease, and (3) the urodynamic evaluation of lower urinary tract symptoms. The first category is also buttressed by a more current understanding and treatment of postobstructive diuresis, a significant medical complication and frequent source of urologic consultation. A second component of the text addresses medical therapies for BPH, namely α -adrenergic antagonists, 5α -reductase inhibitors, and their combination in the treatment of BPH. The most extensive portion of the text is an up-to-date, concise evaluation of each of the minimally invasive therapies as well as the time-tested surgical treatments.

I think you will find *Management of Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy* concise, readable, and up-to-date.

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