

Preface

Pediatric urology covers a wide range of medical conditions from those managed medically (e.g., voiding dysfunction) to those managed surgically (e.g., bladder exstrophy). Although some conditions are similar in both children and adults, such as hematuria and hydroceles, their etiology and management may be different. This has led to the commonly accepted principle that children with urologic conditions should not be treated as small adults. Unlike adults, the ratio of congenital to acquired conditions in children with urologic conditions is much higher. Congenital and acquired conditions in children may require observation (e.g., hydronephrosis and renal trauma, respectively), reconstruction (e.g., urethroplasty for hypospadias and buccal mucosal urethroplasty for failed urethroplasty), or excision (e.g., heminephrectomy associated with an ectopic ureter and orchiectomy for testicular torsion).

Due to the relatively few fellowship-trained pediatric urologists in the United States, a vast number of children are evaluated and treated for urologic conditions by urologists practicing general urology. *Pediatric Urology: A General Urologist's Guide* is written specifically for general urologists as a concise and comprehensive reference of the more common pediatric urologic conditions. Other health practitioners (i.e., pediatricians, family practitioners, residents, medical students, and midlevel providers) will also find this book as a key reference.

Well-respected pediatric urologists have been carefully chosen to author the chapters due to their expertise. This will assist the healthcare provider to rapidly review the essential aspects of the physical examination, evaluation, diagnostic testing, and management while the patient is still in the office. The chapters are also arranged into four sections to allow for easier access to the information: office urology, genitalia, urinary tract, and miscellaneous topics. Furthermore, the first chapter is dedicated to facts and figures that serve to allow easy access to this information. Upon completion of this text, it is my sincere hope that the reader will have the essential information to assist them in the care of children.

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