

Preface

Nocturia has been variously described as a symptom, a condition, a symptom complex, and a syndrome. A case can be made for any of these descriptions. By the simplest of criteria, nocturia is a symptom, defined below. However, a thorough understanding of the many medical and surgical conditions that may contribute to the genesis of nocturia in individual patients leads to the conclusion that diagnosis and treatment of this symptom are a gateway to high-quality medical care in the broadest sense. Physicians intent upon unlocking the many contributing factors to nocturia will find themselves learning amazing things about their patients, which most often rise well past the level of the lower urinary tract to include problems with cardiac, pulmonary, renal, endocrine, and nervous systems. It may well be that there is not another solitary symptom, the study of which ties together so much fascinating pathophysiology. It is for this reason that the editors devote an entire textbook to recording the state of the art in evaluating and managing this common and vexing medical complaint.

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Nocturia

Causes, Consequences and Clinical Approaches

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