

Preface

Andrology is the medical specialty that deals with male health, especially as it pertains to problems of the male sexual and reproductive system. Andrological issues in urologic practice and indeed in general medical practice are commonly encountered, yet perplexing for many clinicians.

In medical training, urologic or general medicine, there is generally minimal attention focused on these topics. Thus, clinicians are often left under-informed and under-trained. This is the impetus behind this book. It was my vision to develop a series of clinical care algorithms to aid the clinician in their medical practice. Whether you are a urologist or belong to another medical specialty or are a physician in training, a nurse or physician assistant, these algorithms have been designed to assist you in your decision-making regarding patient evaluation and treatment. To the best of our ability, we have designed algorithms that are evidence-based and where such evidence or society guidelines do not exist I have used my substantial clinical experience in sexual and reproductive medicine to generate these clinical care pathways. I have been ably assisted in the development of these pathways by two bright young stars in andrology, both trained by me, Doron Stember MD and Peter Stahl MD, without whose efforts this project would not have been possible.

No doubt, there may be topics that you would have liked to see covered by us that have been omitted. We have tried to focus on the most frequent or important areas for clinical practice. Each chapter is organized in an identical fashion, with the algorithm presented with annotations to text that expands on the point in question. We have attached appendices where we believe these are of value, in particular, specific questionnaires that may be of value to you in your daily practice. We have included numerous tables, listing definitions, key history and examination points, and medication doses and side effects. We have also included suggested reading lists, which are specifically designed not to be comprehensive and overwhelming, but rather functional.

I hope you find this book of clinical utility to you. I welcome comments and suggestions with regard to specific algorithms in this book or future algorithms.

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