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## Preface

There are many “tools” essential to the practice of urology, a surgical specialty that manages patients with acute and chronic genitourinary conditions. Urology providers encounter patients who need to drain a kidney(s), ureter(s), or bladder, or who are managing or preventing urine leakage, or are supporting a vaginal prolapse. But the dilemma for most clinicians is not being aware of available urology tools, such as catheters and other devices and products, and not keeping current with new technological changes to these essential urologic tools.

As a multidisciplinary team with expertise in this area, we felt that a textbook would fill this crucial gap in knowledge by providing extensive information on these tools. This textbook is our collaboration on the “nuts and bolts” of using catheters, devices, and products in men and women with emphasis on urologic use. You will find a comprehensive overview of urologic tools with practical information on the indications, types, sizes, and materials, adverse events and complications, patient education, best practices and evidence-based research, and regulations for use.

This book is unique from other urologic textbooks—which, in most cases, only mention these tools within a chapter on a specific urologic condition (e.g., obstructive uropathy, nephrolithiasis, incontinence)—because it devotes entire chapters to indwelling, intermittent, and external catheters, stents, and tubes, drainage bags, external barrier and internal occlusive urethral devices, intravaginal devices and products, penile compression devices, perineal skin care, and incontinence absorbent products. The book’s uniqueness extends to its design as a “picture book,” including numerous pictures and illustrations of all aforementioned tools. Additionally, the book includes patient instructions for the application and care of a specific catheter, device, or product, as well as best practices for clinical care.

The book contains eight chapters authored by multidisciplinary professionals with expertise in urologic catheters, devices, and products, including urologists, physiatrists, registered nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and an individual with expertise in marketing incontinence products. Chapter One describes the use of indwelling urinary catheters (IUCs), transurethral and suprapubic, and details the current evidence-based and regulatory guidelines on the use of IUCs, with specifics on complications such as catheter-associated UTIs. Chapter Two reviews intermittent use of urinary catheters (referred to as intermittent catheterization or IC) by patients performing catheterization during their daily lives. With approximately 12,000 new cases of spinal cord injuries per year, and many more with neurogenic lower urinary tract dysfunction, the first-line bladder management in these patients is intermittent catheterization. The technological advances in catheters used for IC are rapid and evolving. Chapter Three reviews external catheters and pouches, primarily used in men with urinary incontinence. Chapter Four discusses specific catheters and devices, such as dilators, filiforms, stents, and nephrostomy tubes, used to relieve obstruction in the urinary tract. Many of the catheters and devices discussed in Chapters One through Four use some type of urinary drainage bag, which is the topic of Chapter Five. The final three chapters provide further information on devices and products: Chapter Six describes absorbent products used by patients with urinary incontinence before and after treatments; Chapter Seven provides a comprehensive review of many urologic and pelvic devices, including urostomy appliances, penile compression devices,

internal and external inserts and urethral meatus barriers, toileting assistive devices, and intra-vaginal support devices; and Chapter Eight entails a short review of perineal skin care as it relates to the urologic patient.

The name of manufacturers and/or suppliers of specific catheters, devices or products shown in this book are noted in the Figure legend. Additional information and access to most, if not all of them, is available on the internet. The Continence Product Advisor website (<http://www.continenceproductadvisor.org/>), a collaboration between the International Continence Society and other organizations, is also a resource educating patients on certain urologic catheters, devices and products.

In sum, this book is a one-of-a-kind, clinically based textbook detailing the latest technology and knowledge on urologic catheters, devices, and products. The book is accessible and easy to understand, with many photos and illustrations to assist in relaying the information. And, most importantly, the book fills a critical void in urology professional education for all urology and other health care providers and their support personnel.

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