

BOOK REVIEWS

Urological Cancer

by Donald G. Skinner (Ed)
Grune and Stratton, New York, 1983, \$32.00

The purpose of this 1983 Symposium on Genitourinary Cancer is, according to the editor, to assemble the nation's leading authorities in surgical and medical oncology, tumor epidemiology, pathology, radiation therapy, diagnostic radiology to deliver state-of-the-art addresses, and to look to the future. The symposium was planned to coincide with the opening of the Kenneth Norris Jr. Cancer Hospital and Research Institute on the University of Southern California Medical School Campus.

The presentations following each other in logical sequence, deal with the diagnostic and therapeutic problems of the main neoplastic categories—adenocarcinoma of the prostate, urothelial cancer, germ cell tumors of the testis, and renal cell carcinoma. Each category is preceded by epidemiologic studies with interesting evaluations of the important carcinogenic agents and reports about ongoing research. The principal urologic neoplasms are then discussed as to diagnosis and management with special consideration of their individual peculiarities. Every chapter is comprehensive, precise, and condensed, and the advances and limitations of different modalities are clearly analyzed.

The symposium concludes with chapters on pediatric urologic tumors and, finally, with the conference summation: "A Look to the Future," by Willet F. Whitmore, Jr., a truly remarkable exposé and worthy of remembering.

This book fills a gap between the vast amount of individual publications and large textbooks with their oncologic parts relatively outdated. HS

Urologic Injuries

by W. Graham Guerriero, and Charles J. Devine, Jr., Appleton-Century-Crofts, Norwalk, Connecticut, 1984, \$35.00

This monograph deals with trauma of the genitourinary system. There are also chapters on fistulas, pelvic fractures, acute renal failure, and strictures.

The experience and knowledge of the author becomes immediately apparent. His approach to the practical side of the evaluation and treatment of the injured patient is realistic, and his very personal "Dos" and "Don'ts" are refreshing to read. The reviewer is frequently reminded of his own quarrels with Trauma Teams about the importance of IVP, in cases of urethral trauma about the necessity of a urethrogram before the insertion of a catheter, etc. This book would be a good companion for urologic and surgical residents, but clinical urologists who are only occasionally involved in urologic trauma also would benefit widely from studying this monograph. The pitfalls and complications of delayed diagnosis are outlined in detail, and a high index of suspicion would be revived.

The highly individual style of the author is not always easy to take, but the reader is rewarded by the comprehensiveness of the material presented.

The last chapter about strictures is written by Charles J. Devine, Jr. The author does not need introduction, and the reader will follow his discussion with great interest. His middle-road approach to the quite controversial issue and his request not to become fixed on one way of treatment but to make the procedure fit the patient is appealing and reflects on the author's expertise in this field. HS