

Foreword



Martin I. Resnick, MD
Consulting Editor

We hear about it every day, whether it is on a television commercial, in a newspaper advertisement, or a symptom reported by one of our patients. Overactive bladder is not only a common problem but also one of which our patient population is well aware. It is more common in women, and not only is it responsible for impacting on the lifestyle of the affected patient but it can also lead to a reclusive lifestyle and, at times, the need for assisted living care because of urinary incontinence and associated embarrassment. The cost to the patient and society is significant.

In this issue of the *Urologic Clinics of North America*, Dr. Michael Chancellor with the assistance of multiple authors has reviewed the salient aspects of this disorder. The epidemiology, morbidity, and associated economic and social issues are fully addressed. In addition, the various medications that are available are reviewed; similarities

and differences are noted. Newer approaches such as sacral nerve stimulation and the application of bladder toxic agents are also discussed in a logical manner so that these newer techniques are placed in context with more standard therapy. Finally, new pharmaceuticals such as β_3 -adrenergic receptor agonists are also reviewed.

This issue should be of interest not only to all urologists caring for patients who have overactive bladder but also to all physicians caring for these patients, whether they be gynecologists, internists, or family physicians.

Martin I. Resnick, MD
*Department of Urology
Case Medical Center
Cleveland, OH, USA*

E-mail address: martin.resnick@case.edu