



Book Review

Voiding Dysfunction – Diagnosis and Treatment

Edited by RA Appell

Published by: Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey, USA:
pp341, US\$99.50 (Hardback) ISBN: 0-89603-659-6

Voiding dysfunction includes disorders of urinary storage as well as the emptying of the lower urinary tract. This book brings the reader up to date on all clinical aspects of voiding dysfunction. There are five sections in this book: (i) Introduction; (ii) Neurogenic vesico-urethral dysfunction; (iii) Female voiding dysfunction; (iv) Male voiding dysfunction; (v) Treatment modalities.

Twenty-two authors from the US have made contributions to this book which comprises 14 chapters. All the chapters are well organised and reader-friendly. The typesetting is excellent. The illustrations are clear. I presume that this book is addressed to an audience of urologists who treat male and female patients suffering from voiding dysfunction.

The chapters on 'Diagnosis and Treatment of Spinal Cord Injuries and Myeloneuropathies' is essential reading for spinal cord injury physicians. The authors of this superbly written chapter are Dr Sukin and Dr Boone from the Scott Department of Urology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas. This chapter consists of six parts: (i) Introduction; (ii) Spinal cord injuries; (iii) Myelodysplasia; (iv) Other diseases of the spinal cord; (v) Long-term urologic management; (vi) Follow-up prevention of complications. The readers should remember that American Physicians have

written this book. For example, 'Procardia' is recommended for autonomic dysreflexia. It took me a few seconds to realise that 'Procardia' is nifedipine!

The last three chapters provide useful information in a concise manner and spinal cord injury physicians will find them interesting. These chapters include 'Clinical Pharmacology', 'Treatment of detrusor instability with electrical stimulation' and 'Treatment of detrusor instability with augmentation cystoplasty'. Dr Blaivas has contributed a chapter on 'Multiple Sclerosis'. This chapter will be very useful to physicians caring for patients with multiple sclerosis, as it provides a comprehensive review of the neurophysiology of micturition, urologic history, symptoms, and common urodynamic patterns in multiple sclerosis, and management options for the neuropathic bladder in the patients with multiple sclerosis.

However, some chapters, eg 'Bladder outlet obstruction in males', 'Post-prostatectomy incontinence', 'Urinary retention in women', may not be relevant to physicians working in spinal injuries units. Because of this reason, I have some reservation in recommending this book for the personal library of spinal cord injury physicians, but I would strongly recommend this book for the hospital library.

S Vaidyanathan
Regional Spinal Injuries Centre,
District General Hospital,
Southport, Merseyside, UK