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# EDITORIAL

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## “How We Do It” - The New Guidebook in Urology for Primary Care Physicians

**P**rimarily care physicians (PCPs) typically encounter patients presenting with urologic conditions on a daily basis.

The encounter may be over the phone, when a patient calls to renew a script for a recurrent urinary tract infection. Or a patient may present in the PCP's office with lower urinary tract symptoms or gross hematuria. Or the PCP may find red blood cells in a microscopic urinalysis sample collected during a patient's annual check-up. A male patient may report decreased erections or other signs and symptoms of testosterone deficiency syndrome.

PCPs working in an emergency department may see patients who present with severe renal colic, or a painful or sudden-onset swollen testicle or scrotum, or even urinary retention.

It is rare for a PCP to pass a day without seeing a patient who has a urologic condition. Because of this, over five years ago, *The Canadian Journal of Urology* (CJU) created and published the first edition of “Update in Urology for the Primary Care Physician” as a journal supplement. Since then, I have helped develop three subsequent editions. These supplements have gone viral! Over 15,000 doctors in Canada alone have seen them. PCPs can access the supplements online for free on the CJU website ([www.canjurol.com](http://www.canjurol.com)). Whenever I give lectures anywhere in the world, doctors frequently approach me with compliments and expressions of gratitude for these guides to urology care. Many have told me that these supplements have become their “go-to bible for urology.”

In this edition, which we renamed “**Practical Guidebook in Urology for Primary Care Physicians**,” we have taken a slightly different approach. In collaboration with two PCPs, Dr. Matt T. Rosenberg and Dr. Martin Miner, who have extensive knowledge and practical experience in managing urology patients, we have created a resource with a new focus. Wherever possible, we aimed to provide treatment algorithms or step-by-step guides to diagnose and treat patients with typical urologic conditions. We describe how PCPs can manage urology patients who are seen in their office or in the emergency department. For each urologic condition, this guidebook provides a practical patient-management approach based on the literature as well as up to 35 years of clinical experience.

We hope that this guidebook will become your new “everyday handbook” for the practical management of your urology patients.

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