

BOOK REVIEW

Urinary Cytology: Microscopy and Analysis of Stained Smears by H.J. de Voogt, P. Ratherl, and M.E. Beyer-Boon; Foreward by L.G. Koss. 194 pages, 79 figures, 12 tables. Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer 1977.

This book is an atlas of urinary cytology specifically planned as an aid in the detection of malignant tumours of the urinary tract. Clinical cytology might be defined as a working field for people with common interests in the practice of medicine, biology and morphology. The fact that this book has been written by a cytopathologist, together with two urologists emphasises that cooperation between different disciplines is essential in the modern management of carcinoma of the urinary tract.

The book is divided into two parts: the first contains seven concise chapters on preparatory techniques, collection of material, smear preparation and staining, and the basic morphology of urinary cytology in normal and pathologic conditions. The importance of correlation between cytological findings and histological diagnosis from biopsy is emphasised. The accuracy of the cytological method is discussed. The references are numerous, representing, for

the most part, recent literature on the subject.

The second part illustrates with many excellent reproductions in black and white and in colour, morphological details of urinary cytopathology. Each case is presented with a short clinical history, followed by pertinent histological and cytological pictures.

This comprehensive and authoritative book gives further support to the impression that urinary cytology has won general acceptance as a complementary technique in the diagnosis of tumours of the urinary tract. The advantages offered by the cytological method are ease in assessing intracellular details by high-power microscopy of the smears and the possibility of repeating the cytological analysis before and during therapy without discomfort for the patient.

The book is modern in every respect and is highly recommended for urologists, oncologists and cytopathologists.

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