

## Book Reviews

**Disturbances in Male Fertility.** By Bandhauer, K.; Bartsch, G.; Kretser, D. M. de; Eshkol, A.; Frick, J.; Glezerman, M.; Kerr, J. B.; Lunenfeld, B.; Pöldinger, W.; Rohr, H. P.; Scharfeller, F.; Temple-Smith, P. D. Editors: Bandhauer, K.; Frick, J.

**Handbuch der Urologie/Encyclopedia of Urology**, Vol. 16. Founded by Alken, C. E.; Dix, V. W.; Weyrauch, H. M.; Wildbolz, E. Editors: Andersson, L.; Gittes, R. F.; Goodwin, W. E.; Lutzeyer, W.; Zingg, E.

Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer 1982. XXIII, 454 p., 153 figs., Cloth DM 290,- ISBN 3-540-05279-8

The sixteenth volume of the Encyclopedia of Urology is devoted to disturbances of male fertility.

The subject is broadly covered by contributions from leading andrologists under the editorial direction of K. Bandhauer and J. Frick. De Kretser describes the anatomical and functional aspects of the male reproductive organs. Special reference is made to cell cytology, in addition to the histology of organ structures. Bartsch and Rohr present the quantitative morphology of the prostate and epididymis on the basis of stereology. Stereological analysis will give information as to the amounts of tissue and cell compartment of the gland in light microscopy slides and electromicrographs. Glezerman catalogues the endocrinology of testicular disturbances in man. The discussion includes chromosomal aberrations, primary and secondary testicular failure, and extratesticular disturbances. Bandhauer introduces the routine of case history taking and clinical examination of males. The semen analysis, as presented by Glezerman, is seen as a basic pillar in the evaluation of male infertility. Testicular biopsy is limited to the differential diagnosis between testicular failure and obstruction in normogonadotrophic males. A testicular biopsy will provide tissue for electronmicroscopy and for clinical and morphological studies in specific indications. Radiological investigations play only a minor role in the management of male infertility and Bandhauer urges that their indication be firmly restricted. The endocrinological evaluation of male fertility disorders is described by Lunenfeld and Glezerman. The value of dynamic tests is discussed in depth, and their place in the selection of patients for gonadotropin therapy is evaluated. A special chapter by Scharfetter is given over to the neurological disturbances of genital function. Bandhauer presents the state of the art concerning the diagnosis and therapy of immunological causes of fertility disorders. Their pharmacological treatment is presented by Glezerman and Lunenfeld. The application of gonadotropin releasing hormone, human gonadotropins, prolactin inhibitors, androgens and anti-estrogens is discussed together with practical examples and references to therapeutic doses. Frick devotes his chapter to the operative management of male infertility.

Along with the surgical treatment of varicocele the possibilities of surgery for obstructive azoospermia are reviewed and so, too, are the techniques of vaso-epididymostomy and vaso-vasostomy. Artificial insemination and semen preservation are further therapeutic alternatives; their indication, the selection of donors, the methods themselves and their results are reviewed with due consideration to legal aspects.

"Male contraception, the need for fertility control", is presented by Frick. Various methods are detailed here. Reference to technique and security is especially made in association with vasectomy - its complications and the possibilities of reversing it. The field of pharmacological contraception is mentioned and elaborated by the author's personal results. Issues of impotence and functional sexual disorders as seen from a psychiatrists viewpoint complete the volume. Each chapter is underscored by an extensive list of references.

This is a standard work on male infertility that thoroughly merits its place amongst the handbooks of urology. The Editors

**Mauermayer, W.: Transurethral Surgery.** With contributions by Fastenmeier, K.; Flachenecker, G.; Hartung, R.; Schütz, W. Translated from the German by Fiennes, A., Foreword by Goodwin, W. E. Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer 1983. XXIX, 473 p., 240 figs., Cloth DM 360,-. ISBN 3-540-11869-1

"Transurethral Surgery", which has recently appeared in English, has already in the meantime become a "must" for German speaking urologists. The enormous experience of the author, with more than 30 years of intensive practice in transurethral surgery, combined with an unusual sense of clarity and didactic talent makes the book far more than just another manual of transurethral surgery: an encyclopedia in the best sense of the word where you can find in nearly 500 pages everything around and about TUR in an easy reading style with excellent illustrations and a clearly expressed opinion on many "open" questions. 14 chapters, mostly signed by the senior author, cover nearly everything from TUR room, instruments, preoperative requirements, technique in prostate and bladder resection, related endoscopic procedures, postoperative management, complications and finally teaching problems. A discussion of single chapters would go beyond the limits of this review.

Needless to say the quality of the print of the text and the illustrations are equivalent to the content and the author as well as the editor have to be congratulated. Not many urologists with interest in transurethral procedures, having had a look into this excellent book, will renounce its acquisition. The Editors

**Bergqvist, D., Postoperative Thromboembolism.** Frequency, Etiology, Prophylaxis.

Berlin-Heidelberg-New York: Springer 1983. XI, 234 p., 7 figs., 48 tables, DM 98,-. ISBN 3-540-12062-9

This book represents the best information available today in the field of postoperative thromboembolic complications. Bergqvist himself has written a number of carefully carried out studies, both in experimental and clinical research of thromboembolism. He presents now a world review of the literature and covers history, pathogenesis, frequency, the problem of risk factors and then gives an overview on all mechanical methods for the prevention of thromboembolic complications, as well as a review on all drugs available. Prophylaxes in various clinical situations are given. Hundreds of references are given, and the fact that some of them are incomplete or wrong, does not really decrease the value of this excellent book, which certainly represents the bible in this field for the next couple of years. The Editors