

Richard Clements

Udal Patel, David Rickards: Handbook of transrectal ultrasound and biopsy of the prostate

**Martin Dunitz, London 2002, pp 128 12 Tables 80 Figures,
(ISBN 1-84184-192-7)**

This excellent handbook is well written and very readable. Prostate ultrasound is principally needed for prostate cancer detection, and this book gives a good practical approach to contemporary prostate biopsy. It can be strongly recommended. Written by two radiologists with considerable experience in this field, this is both a useful handbook for established urologists and radiologists undertaking prostate biopsy, as well as a comprehensive introduction for trainees in urology and radiology, and potential future workers undertaking prostate biopsy such as sonographers and nurse practitioners.

The book covers preparation of the patient for biopsy, the biopsy itself and patient after-care. There is a separate chapter on repeat biopsy, the subject of considerable contemporary interest.

The book is comprehensive but one small area that is not covered is the handling of the biopsy core specimen after it has been taken. It would also have been beneficial for completeness if it had covered free-to-total PSA and complexed PSA in the section on prostate-specific antigen, in the chapter on principles related to biopsy in patients with suspected prostate cancer. There are additional chapters on the use of transrectal ultrasound in benign prostate disease.

In summary this compact handbook has a wealth of useful information and should be available as a reference handbook in departments undertaking contemporary prostate biopsy.