

Preface

Andrology is the medical specialty that deals with male health, especially as it pertains to problems of the male sexual and reproductive system. Andrological issues in urologic practice and indeed in general medical practice are commonly encountered, yet perplexing for many clinicians. Sexual dysfunction is gaining increased attention in the media as it becomes more acceptable to discuss previously taboo topics. These are often topics that men suffered from but either did not know to ask or were too uncomfortable to ask with their physician. Sexual dysfunction is a common problem that can have a major impact on a patient's quality of life, including their relationship and treatment satisfaction.

There is an increasing trend towards more medical care being delivered in the office setting rather than in an operating room. Office-based andrology procedures are more common than other areas of urology but yet not as well trained during urology residency training. The increasing pressure of duty hours on urology residency training leaves residents often lacking comfort with these procedures.

The purpose of this text is to act as a resource to aid andrology practitioners, including physicians, nurse practitioners/physician assistants, clinical trainees, nurses, medical assistants, and others, who perform or assist in-office andrology procedures. We tried to cover the most common procedures within a typical andrology office practice. However, some procedures were excluded because they are not very common in an office setting. We hope this book will be found useful to those who have had no specific andrology training and to those who are simply out of practice.

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<http://www.springer.com/978-3-319-42176-6>

Atlas of Office Based Andrology Procedures

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2017, IX, 138 p. 128 illus., 114 illus. in color., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-42176-6