Clinical Decisions in Pediatric Nephrology
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A Problem-solving Approach to Clinical Cases
This book is dedicated to the individuals who have given meaning to my life:

- To the memory of my mother whose honesty and fairness served as a model that I have tried to emulate. Her continued love has allowed me to maintain a frame of reference which has assured my happiness
- To my father who remains, in his later years, a source of inspiration to three generations of loving progeny
- To my wife, Nassrin, for her support, patience, understanding and great sacrifices in order for me to pursue my career
- To my children, Ladan and Ramin—and to my grandchildren, Emily, Mathew, Caroline, and Christian—who provide my hope for the future
- To all medical students, residents, and fellows who have enriched my life
- To all the children for whom I have cared, who always taught me so much
Preface

Over the last twenty-five years of teaching, I have found the evidence-based medicine approach to be very effective in teaching clinical nephrology to students of health professions at all stages of their training. For this reason, I believe that the time has come to undertake the task of publishing a comprehensive book dealing with common renal disorders as they present in clinical practice.

This book is designed to expand the clinical knowledge and experience of residents in training and the practicing clinician. The format of case reports will illuminate the basic principles and pathophysiology of diseases of the kidney and define diagnosis and treatment. The selected case reports focus on the essential aspects of the patient’s presentation findings and managements needed to assist in the differential diagnosis. They develop a process of logical questioning from the presentation of the signs and symptoms and laboratory data, and they are presented in the way in which our patients come to us with their signs and symptoms or are referred to us by our colleagues. Each question is followed by a detailed discussion that reviews recent publications and translates emerging areas of science into data that is useful at the bedside. The content is an evidence-based medicine approach, resulting in improved quality, safety, and cost-effectiveness of patient care. An update bibliography will conclude each set of clinical cases. This format will help readers stay abreast of developing areas of clinical nephrology.

I am appreciative of the work of the medical editors of Springer Publishers, Inc., for their contributions to this endeavor and all those persons who have dedicated their skills, intelligence, and work to help make this a book of outstanding editorial quality.

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Farahnak Assadi
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