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# OXALATE METABOLISM IN RELATION TO URINARY STONE

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G. ALAN ROSE (Ed.)

With 98 figures

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*Cover illustration:* Calcium phosphate crystals appearing as  
fibrils.

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## **Foreword**

“Oxalate Metabolism in Relation to Urinary Stone” is the third monograph to appear in the “Bloomsbury Series”. Edited by Alan Rose, the book describes the current clinical and biochemical features of oxalate metabolism. Its content and direction fulfil the goals of the Series emphasising the strong links between basic science and clinical medicine.

London

Jack Tinker

30 March 1988

## Preface

The first oxalate workshop was held in London in 1979 and the proceedings published privately by the Wellcome Foundation. At that time the importance of urinary oxalate as a risk factor more important for calcium oxalate stone formation than urinary calcium had been recognized. Nevertheless measurements of urinary oxalate still left a lot to be desired and in particular the non-enzymatic conversion of ascorbate to oxalate had not been rediscovered so that many measurements must have been wrong. Plasma oxalate was still difficult or impossible to measure by any reasonable, accessible methods and consequently there was still much argument and speculation about the handling of oxalate by the kidneys. A lot of work has been performed in the last eight years on oxalate metabolism and it therefore seemed to the organisers to be a good time to hold a second oxalate workshop. The first oxalate workshop was an off-shoot of the Bonn-Vienna Symposia on Urolithiasis and it consisted of a series of papers submitted by British and Europeans working in the field. This second workshop, however, consisted of a number of review papers given by authors specially selected for their expertise in particular aspects of oxalate research. An attempt has been made to cover both clinical and laboratory aspects and it is therefore hoped that this volume will appeal to both doctors and biochemists.

A workshop such as this can only reach a limited audience and its value is greatly enhanced by publication which gives access to a far greater audience. I am therefore grateful to Springer-Verlag for having agreed to publish the edited proceedings as this volume. I would also like to acknowledge financial assistance from the Sigma Chemical Company.

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G. A. Rose

December 1987

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