

Pediatric Endourology Techniques

Prasad P. Godbole (Ed.)

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 Springer

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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

Pediatric endourology techniques

1. Pediatric urology 2. Endourology 3. Laparoscopy 4. Genitourinary organs – Endoscopic surgery
I. Godbole, Prasad
618.9'2607545

ISBN-13: 9781846283864

ISBN-10: 1846283868

Library of Congress Control Number: 2006925623

ISBN-10: 1-84628-386-8 e-ISBN 1-84628-457-0 Printed on acid-free paper

ISBN-13: 978-1-84628-386-4

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9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Springer Scienct+Business Media

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Foreword

I am honored to provide a foreword to this important text. A decade or two ago, a textbook with this title would have contained a chapter about cystourethroscopy, perhaps one about stone management, and another about diagnostic laparoscopy for the undescended testis. Scanning the contents for this textbook gives the reader some idea of the creativity and courage of the editor and authors, all of whom have been pioneers in the adaptation of minimally invasive techniques in children. The chapters are arranged by system, making this a valuable and easily navigated reference work. In addition, the format of the chapters is uniform, and the detail allows adaptation of these techniques by anyone with the requisite skill.

The audience for a book like this should extend well beyond those with interest and experience in minimally invasive surgical techniques. At this stage in the evolution of pediatric urology, all practitioners should have an understanding of the full range of surgical options available to the children we serve. Once a curiosity or novelty, minimally invasive surgery has proven to be the gold standard for nephrectomy, management of nonpalpable testes, and management of renal and ureteral calculi. Many of the other techniques outlined in this text are likely to become standard approaches as time goes by. This impressive group of international authors, along with many others, will continue to define the forefront of pediatric urological surgery. I applaud their efforts, and look forward to the new techniques that will be revealed in future editions of this book.

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Preface

Pediatric urology has rapidly developed as a separate subspecialty in the last decade. During this time, significant advances in technology and instrumentation have meant that more procedures can be performed by the minimally invasive route. However, access to and availability of adequate training facilities and resources continues to hinder surgeons in acquiring experience and expertise in minimally invasive techniques in pediatric urology. This handbook, with its DVD, addresses these issues.

The aim of this handbook and DVD is to enable surgeons to carry out commonly performed minimally invasive pediatric urological procedures. It has been organized systematically for quick reference to each topic of interest. The chapters encompass the majority of commonly performed pediatric endourological procedures in a standardized format. A list of relevant references is given at the end of each chapter. Details of individual pediatric urological conditions are not covered, as there are several excellent texts on the subject. All the techniques demonstrated on the accompanying DVD are from the contributor's own practice. In some instances, the technique demonstrated may reflect the author's personal preference. This handbook/DVD is not only useful to pediatric urologists but also to pediatric surgeons, general surgeons, and adult urologists – that is, to any surgeon or surgeon in training who has an interest in minimally invasive surgery.

I am indebted to the outstanding panel of international contributors for their efforts and outstanding work toward the production of this handbook/DVD and for keeping to a tight deadline. I would also like to thank Eva Senior at Springer, UK, and Barbara Chernow at Chernow Editorial Services, Inc., USA, for their organization, assistance, and support for this project from conception to delivery.

And most importantly, I would like to thank my family without whose support and sacrifice I would not have been able to dedicate the time and effort required for the publication of this innovative venture.

Prasad P. Godbole

Contents

Section A: Laparoscopy

Basic Principles

- 1 Laparoscopy in Children: Basic Principles 3
Sean S. Marven and Prasad P. Godbole

Kidney

- 2 Nephrectomy and Heminephrectomy 13
Imran Mushtaq
- 3 Laparoscopic Pyeloplasty 19
Pedro-José López, Patrick G. Duffy, and Imran Mushtaq
- 4 Transposition of Lower Pole Vessels, “The Vascular Hitch” 24
Prasad P. Godbole and Patrick G. Duffy

Adrenal Gland

- 5 Laparoscopic Adrenalectomy 31
Imran Mushtaq

Bladder

- 6 Transvesicoscopic Cohen Ureteric Reimplantation for Vesico-Ureteral
Reflux in Children 39
Jean-Stéphane Valla

Genitalia

- 7 Impalpable Testis 49
Mohan S. Gundeti and Duncan T. Wilcox
- 8 Varicocelelectomy (I) 54
Job K. Chacko, Al Baha Barqawi, Jesse N. Mills, and Martin A. Koyle
- 9 Varicocelelectomy (II) 56
Chris P. Kimber
- 10 Intersex and Laparoscopy 59
Chris P. Kimber and John M. Hutson

Section B: Endoscopy

Lower Urinary Tract Endoscopy

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| 11 | General Principles of Cystourethroscopy | 67 |
| | <i>Linda A. Baker</i> | |
| 12 | STING for Vesicoureteral Reflux | 77 |
| | <i>Selcuk Yucel and Linda A. Baker</i> | |
| 13 | Bladder Outlet Injection for Urinary Incontinence | 85 |
| | <i>Selcuk Yucel and Linda A. Baker</i> | |
| 14 | Posterior Urethral Valves | 92 |
| | <i>Divyesh Y. Desai and Peter M. Cuckow</i> | |
| 15 | Endoscopic Management of Ureterocele and Syringocele | 95 |
| | <i>Paul F. Austin and Douglas E. Coplen</i> | |

Urinary Calculi

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 16 | Percutaneous Nephrolithotomy and Laparoscopic Management of
Urinary Tract Calculi | 101 |
| | <i>Pedro-José López, Michael J. Kellett, and Patrick G. Duffy</i> | |
| 17 | Ureteroscopy in Children | 106 |
| | <i>Pedro-José López and Patrick G. Duffy</i> | |
| 18 | Minimally Invasive Management of Calculi in Augmented/
Neuropathic Bladders | 110 |
| | <i>Jesse N. Mills, Al Baha Barqawi, Job K. Chacko, and Martin A. Koyle</i> | |

Section C: Miscellaneous

Fecal Incontinence

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 19 | Laparoscopic Assisted ACE Procedure for Fecal Incontinence
in Children (I) | 115 |
| | <i>Dominic Frimberger and Jeffrey B. Campbell</i> | |
| 20 | Laparoscopic Assisted ACE Procedure for Fecal Incontinence
in Children (II) | 120 |
| | <i>Prasad P. Godbole and Julian P. Roberts</i> | |

Robotics

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 21 | Robotics and Pediatric Urology: Robotically Assisted Pyeloplasty
in Children | 125 |
| | <i>Craig A. Peters</i> | |

- | | |
|-------------|-----|
| Index | 130 |
|-------------|-----|

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