# FOREWORD

Urologic cancers are an umbrella term for cancers of the prostate, kidney, bladder, penis, and testis. While cancers of the prostate, testes, and penis are specific to men, kidney cancer and bladder cancer affect both men and women. However, these also have a male-predominance, with men twice as likely to develop kidney and bladder cancer compared to women. The past 20 years have witnessed remarkable advances in the detection and management of urologic cancers. Routine use of advanced imaging modalities for various reasons has increased the detection of some of these cancers at an early stage. Robot-assisted surgery for nephrectomy, prostatectomy, cystectomy, and retroperitoneal lymph node dissection has improved surgical outcomes of localized disease. The introduction of targeted therapies since 2006 has revolutionized the management of metastatic kidney cancer. Despite these advances, the five-year survival of patients with advanced renal cancer is still poor and we need a better understanding of the disease.

The book *Urologic Cancers* provides an up-to-date overview of a wide spectrum of topics that comprise epidemiological, pathological, clinical, and biological aspects of urologic cancers. From the epidemiological spectrum, the most recent information on the epidemiology of testicular cancer and penile cancer are presented. From the clinical spectrum, the characteristics and management of divergent urothelial neoplasms, the role of surgery in the management of testicular and kidney cancer, biopsy approaches for better detection and diagnosis of prostate cancer, the role of family history and germline genetics in prostate cancer disease profiling and screening, and the need for the implementation of quality assurance programs to improve prostate cancer care discussed. The biological aspects of disease mechanisms and potential new therapeutics approaches are reviewed. Disease mechanisms focus on the etiological aspects of bladder cancer, renal cancer and upper tract urothelial carcinoma, the emerging role of microRNAs, metastamiRs, chromatin modifications and epigenetics not only on disease initiation but also on metastatic transformation. Potential therapeutics highlight the advances in radiation oncology and how this will potentially help the identification of novel image-based targets and change future treatment strategies.

The editors of *Urologic Cancers* need to be commended for bringing together an international team of clinicians and basic scientists to cover a range of topics on urologic cancers. The contents of the book will be of interest to healthcare professionals, basic scientists and clinicians interested in urologic cancers.

Stephen Langley, MS, FRCS Urol
Professor of Urology
Director of Cancer Services RSCH
Co-Chair Surrey & Sussex Cancer Alliance for Urology
Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Guildford GU2 7XX, UK
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