

# GLOSSARY

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## **Aspirate**

Removal by suction of air, fluid or tissue from a body cavity or organ.

## **Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)**

Noncancerous enlargement of the prostate gland.

## **Biopsy**

Removal of tissue from an organ for the purposes of detecting and identifying cancer cells.

## **BUN**

Abbreviation for blood urea nitrogen, a measure of the amount of urea in the blood.

## **Creatinine**

A nitrogenous compound formed by the metabolism of creatine; elevated levels indicate reduced kidney function.

## **Cystitis**

Inflammation of the bladder not necessarily secondary to infection.

## **Cystoscope**

An instrument for the visualization of the interior of the urethra and bladder.

## **Cytology**

The study of cells, including their formation, origin, structure, function, biochemical activities and pathologic characteristics.

## **Dysuria**

Pain with urination.

## **Ejaculation**

Propulsion of semen from the seminal vesicles through urethra and out of the body.

## **Epididymitis**

Acute or chronic inflammation of the epididymis, the organ in which sperm mature.

## **Erectile Dysfunction (IE)**

The inability to obtain and maintain a penile erection sufficient for satisfactory sexual activity.

## **Flank**

Left and right sides of the region where the abdomen joins the back.

## **Hernia**

The protrusion of an organ through an abdominal opening in the muscle wall of the cavity that surrounds it.

## **Hydrocele**

An accumulation of fluid in a sac-like cavity, such as the scrotum.

**Infection**

Invasion with organisms, such as bacteria or viruses, that reproduce and multiply, causing disease.

**Interstitial**

Relating to the spaces within a tissues or organ. For example, the space between the bladder lining and bladder muscle.

**Interstitial cystitis**

Chronic inflammation of the bladder, resulting in reduced bladder capacity, severe bladder irritative symptoms and pain (that may be relieved by voiding).

**Malaise**

A feeling of general discomfort or fatigue.

**Metastatic**

Relating to the spread of tumor cells to distant parts of the body.

**Nocturia**

Awakening one or more times throughout the night to urinate.

**Overactive bladder (OAB)**

A clinical condition characterized by the symptoms of frequency, urgency and/or urge incontinence occurring in the absence of any identifiable local pathology.

**Palpable**

Able to be felt.

**Perineal**

Referring to the area between the vulva and the anus in the female and the scrotum and the anus in the male.

**Prolapse**

The sinking or sliding of an organ from its normal position or location in the body.

**Prostatitis**

Inflammation of the prostate.

**Proton**

The positively charged unit of the nucleus of the atom.

**Pyelography (IV)**

A contrast solution is injected into a vein in the arm, and a series of x-rays is taken at timed intervals as the dye flows through the kidneys, ureters and bladder.

**Pyelonephritis**

Infection of the kidney characterized by fever, flank pain and/or tenderness in the flank.

**Seminal vesicles**

Glandular structures in the male reproductive system that produce a fluid that is added to the secretion of the testes and other glands to form the semen.

**Sepsis**

The presence of bacterial or viral (disease-causing) organisms, or their toxins, in the blood or tissues; may be life-threatening.

**Spermatocele**

A cyst of the epididymis containing spermatozoa.

**Stress incontinence**

Involuntary loss of urine associated with activities that increase intra-abdominal pressure such as coughing, sneezing, lifting and physical exertion.

**Ultrasonography (ultrasound)**

Non-invasive technique that uses high-frequency sound waves to examine internal structures in the body.

**Urge incontinence**

Involuntary loss of urine associated with an overwhelming desire or urge to urinate.

**Urinalysis**

Chemical and microscopic tests that are used to examine a urine specimen.

**Urinary incontinence**

The involuntary leakage of urine.

**Urodynamics**

Study of the storage and voiding function/dysfunction of the lower urinary tract.

**Uroflowmetry**

Evaluation of the characteristics of urine flow.

**Vas Deferens**

The tube that stores and conveys sperm from the epididymis to the urethra prior to ejaculation.

**Voiding**

The act of passing urine.