

GLOSSARY

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.