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Radiological imaging of the ureter, F. Joffre, Ph. Otal, M. Soulie (Eds), Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2003

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The ureter is a vital part of the upper urinary tract, involved in the transport of urine to the bladder. It has always been difficult to image and this excellent book brings together imaging techniques used over the last few decades during the rapid explosive evolution of diagnostic imaging.

In using 31 different authors, the editors have brought together a fund of urological expertise. The disadvantage of multiple authors is that of repetition and overlap, but as this will be a reference book the fault is excusable.

There are 13 chapters with excellent introductions to the methods of imaging and the normal ureter. Plain film and intravenous urography are still important modalities in spite of the glamour of CT 3D reconstruction with volume rendering techniques and recent advances in MR urography.

There is a comprehensive description of congenital malformations and the underlying embryology.

In the chapter on the important subject of ureteric obstruction, there is a good algorithm for strategic imaging.

Elegant virtual endoscopic images are shown in the chapter on tumours of the ureter.

The chapter covering the operative procedures on the ureter will be extremely useful to those radiologists not practising in large urology hospitals, as the anatomy can be so dramatically altered by some of the reconstruction surgery.

There are some useful tips given on interventional radiology and a final chapter sums up the authors suggested strategy for ureteric imaging.

The quality of the images produced are of the high standard which we have come to expect from Springer-Verlag and I would recommend this book as an excellent reference for radiologists and urologists alike.

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