



## Topic issue: men's health in 2019

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In Urology, we often fail to appreciate the greater picture of what men's health means. We focus expertly on diseases of the prostate and male genitourinary system, and increasingly their relationship to other organ systems, i.e., cardiovascular [1–3]. We now realize how metabolism and heart-health impact men's urinary and sexual function, and many urologists are screening for these non-urologic diseases [4–8]. This is great news as perhaps a decade or so ago, I would not have been able to write this statement [9, 10]. Let us take a moment though to take a step back and look at men's health from a more global perspective. The WHO still reports lower life expectancy for men in every nation of the world with healthy life expectancy (HALE), defined as average number of years that a person can expect to live in "full health" by taking into account years lived in less than full health due to disease and/or injury, remains significantly truncated for men [11]. Men's health is not in competition against women's health. On the contrary, they are different sides of the same coin. To have safe and prosperous societies, its citizens must remain healthy and productive. Premature male morbidity and mortality impacts most greatly those who are left behind, namely women, children, communities, and economies. Much of the developing world still relies heavily upon a male workforce to support their families. If preventable illness, workplace accidents, suicide and mental illness were more fulsomely addressed, we would see a precipitous drop in the top causes on young men's disability and premature death [12].

The Societe Internationale D'Urologie (SIU) is representative truly of global urology, with active members from every continent and every sub-discipline within urology. Care for men around the world, of all socioeconomic backgrounds is one of the fundamental missions of the SIU. This special issue has arisen from the SIU Innovators committee, which provides a forum for early career urologists to engage in the SIU, international collaboration, and friendship. The contributors to this edition are all extraordinary early-career academic urologists committed to engaging and furthering the mission of the SIU and their local communities. Men's health takes many forms when it comes to research within urology. In this issue, we will explore men's sexual health, looking at The Effect of Diet on LUTS, BPH and ED by Chughtai et al. in New York [13] and a Global Review of Injectables for ED by Lawrentschuk et al. in Melbourne [14]. Prostate health remains a key focus for the urologic community and as such, we will take a look at Smarter Screening For Prostate Cancer by Perlis et al. in Toronto [15], examine the innovative ways we can now treat BPH in Beyond Meds: Office-Based Procedures for Benign Prostatic Enlargement by Chung in Sydney [16] as well as gain insight into the often difficult to manage male patient with Chronic Pelvic Pain/Chronic Prostatitis—Where Do We Stand by Doiron and Nickel in Kingston [17]. Managing the hormonal and fertility concerns of men will often fall upon the urologist, thus herein we will discuss The State of the Art in Testosterone Therapy by Krakowsky in Toronto [18] and Optimizing Male Fertility by Cardoso in Sao Paulo [19]. Finally, in an ever more connected world through the Internet, men are seeking health advise online. The quality of the resources available is variable and knowing where to direct patients is now an important part of our counselling, studied here in Men's Health on the Web: An Analysis of Current Resources by Lawrentschuk et al. in Melbourne [9].

Finally, on behalf of the SIU Innovators committee, I would like to dedicate this issue to one of our members, Dr. Daniel Christidis, who we lost tragically this year. Dan was a much admired and beloved friend to many around the world. He was already regarded as a future leader in academic

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urology and a significant contributor to the SIU and the Australian urologic community. Dan was everything we aspire to be—warm and engaging with his friends and family, kind and caring with his patients, thoughtful and respected amongst his peers. When reflecting upon what men’s health means to me, the loss of Dan has personally shown me the profound and far-reaching impact of losing just one man too early in life has on those who are left behind.

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