

Modern Management of Uterine Fibroids

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Modern Management of Uterine Fibroids

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Foreword

This new volume on fibroids covers a broad range of information, as there have been many recent advances in the understanding of the pathology of fibroids and the medical and surgical modalities and techniques of treatment. Published data do not provide this information succinctly, in sufficient technical detail, or in a readily accessible manner. These 19 chapters cover developments in biochemistry and genetics, and the role of imaging, extending to 3D ultrasound and MRI scanning, leading to different classifications. The impact of these benign tumours on fertility and aspects of obstetrics in both the untreated and treated states is described. The variety of medical treatments and pretreatments prior to other interventions has expanded, and surgery now provides many options.

The classical open surgery with an emphasis on microsurgical technique, laparoscopic procedures ranging from myomectomy to hysterectomy, and the use of vaginal hysterectomy, are all described in their complexity. The location of the fibroid determines the approach, so hysteroscopic removal also provides many options, both as inpatient and as outpatient, again with technical definition of procedures and instruments. Illustrations of methods with examples are generously featured.

Much confusion has attended the question of the prevalence of leiomyosarcoma and the role played by

morcellation in its spread. These issues are forensically analysed to provide clarity and guidance to the current situation. Finally, the technique of embolization has come of age, and its role and outcomes are described together with the early work on developing MRI ultrasound-guided lysis, which is developing apace. Even a description of residual fibroids after menopause, and how they might react, finds a place.

This is a comprehensive account of the current approach to the commonest benign tumour in women. Although there are many self-help books directed at patient comprehension of this area, there are no recent books covering such a broad spectrum of information for professionals. It should stimulate interest and close study of a rapidly developing area of benign gynaecology. The editors, Mostafa Metwally and Tin-Chiu Li, have achieved their aim of providing an up-to-date, well-referenced volume to assist reproductive medicine specialists in this increasingly complex field.

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