



Landmark Papers in Nephrology

By John Feehally, Christopher McIntyre, J. Stewart Cameron

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Landmarks in Nephrology points the reader to some of the seminal observations which have led to the practice of nephrology as we know it today.

Twenty areas of nephrology are covered by discrete chapters, with the editors selecting the ten most important papers ever published in that field. These range from observational and experimental studies from the 18th century, which laid the groundwork for our current understanding of the kidney, through to recent randomized controlled clinical trials. The papers also reflect the emergence of nephrology as a speciality in the last fifty years, stimulated particularly by the introduction of renal biopsy and the development of dialysis and transplantation as effective forms of renal replacement therapy. For each paper, there is a succinct commentary which highlights the importance of the work in its historical context, as well as a recommended reading section to encourage the interested reader to explore further.

It is of course a near-impossible task to choose only two hundred papers from the whole oeuvre of nephrology. However, these chosen few are undoubtedly among the great landmarks of nephrology, reflecting the varying coincidences of brilliance, persistence, and good fortune which are necessary for progress in medical science. Encompassing the breadth, range and depth of the intellectual journey which precedes us in the development of nephrology, they provide a telling illustration of Sir Isaac Newton's words to Robert Hooke in 1675: 'If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants'.

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Editorial Review

Review

What is the niche for this book and who should buy it? First and foremost, it has to be said that it is truly unique. It will be quite useful for seasoned nephrologists and trainees alike, especially if they want to take a closer look at the origins of our current clinical practice. Young researchers may find it thought provoking as well in that one can learn how seminal discoveries and renal research evolved throughout the centuries ... what it does well is give a fascinating insight into the history of our specialty and presents many of the groundbreaking papers that shaped this history. Arvind Ponnusamy and Alexander Woywodt, Clinical Kidney Journal

About the Author

John Feehally is Consultant Nephrologist at Leicester General Hospital, and Professor of Renal Medicine at the University of Leicester. His particular clinical interests are in glomerulonephritis and renal transplantation. His major laboratory research programme is in immune renal disease, especially IgA nephropathy. He was President of the UK Renal Association [2004-2007], and is now President of the International Society of Nephrology [2011-2013].

Prof Chris McIntyre graduated in Medicine from Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School (London University). Specialising in renal disease, Dr McIntyre was initially a registrar at University College Hospitals in London prior to becoming a Lecturer in Nephrology at The Royal London Hospitals.

Prof McIntyre leads a team of multidisciplinary researchers focussed largely on the pathophysiology of the widespread abnormalities of cardiovascular function and body composition in chronic kidney disease patients. These studies have increasingly focussed on the adverse consequences resulting from dialysis therapy itself.

J. Stewart Cameron is Emeritus Professor of Renal Medicine Department of Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation, King's College London (Guy's Hospital). He was President of the International Society of Nephrology from 1993 to 1995. His interests include the growth and formation of science-based studies of the kidney from the eighteenth century onwards.

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