

Foreword

I am honoured and delighted to write an introduction to this book, which truly serves the purpose expressed in the title: it bridges the gap between clinical and basic science in the field of prostate cancer.

Mr. Abel and Professor Lalani have made a major and clearly successful effort to put together a text that provides important reading for basic scientists and clinicians interested in the field of prostate cancer. The purpose matches the result: the book serves to bring basic scientists and clinicians closer to each other in understanding the field. They will learn to speak each other's language and this should promote co-operation in an improved, more thoughtful and more directed fashion. This important goal is in line with European Union and national policies, which clearly identify translational research as the main area in which progress can and must be made. This process will require effort on both sides. The present book clearly makes a major contribution by identifying the gaps, pointing to ways out of miscommunication and to a future of better and more effective co-operation.

The editors have succeeded in bringing together much of the scientific avant-garde in this field. The extremely careful choice of subjects and authors has led to an international view on virtually all relevant clinical and basic scientific approaches and problems. The text also shows the growing British and European interest in taking a major research effort forward in the field of prostate cancer. The 38 chapters, split up in 5 thematic sections, provide comprehensive

reviews at the cutting edge of science in the field. Clearly, this book will be an important reference volume for a number of years to come.

The editors and authors are to be complemented for this volume which should bring attention to all those who are working or have a major interest in the field of prostate cancer.

Fritz H. Schröder
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