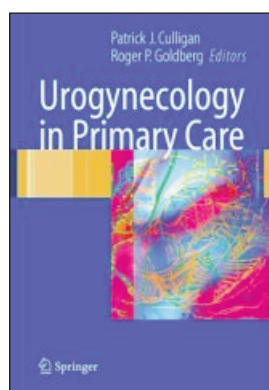


# Book review



## UROGYNECOLOGY IN PRIMARY CARE PATRICK J CULLIGAN AND ROGER P GOLDBERG

*Springer-Verlag, 2007*

**PB, 166 pages, £39.50, 1846281660**

This concise book is written by urogynaecologists as a practical guide for the management of urogynaecological problems in primary care. This is reflected in the content, and layout of the book. This direction is likely to increase, particularly in the light of the recent NICE guidelines on stress incontinence of urine in women and the newly introduced arrangements for practice-based commissioning.

Initial patient assessment and conservative measures, such as pelvic floor exercises, medical treatment for stress incontinence, overactive bladder, and the use of pessaries, are described in ample detail, whereas surgical procedures are outlined briefly. In addition, the book provides background information covering anatomy, epidemiology, pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management, which is vital for clinicians without specialist training in the field. The book also looks beyond continence and prolapse to cover conditions that present and can be screened for in primary care, including the consequences of pregnancy and delivery, pelvic pain, sexual dysfunction, and urinary tract infection. Furthermore, the book addresses management aspects of

providing urogynaecology services in a primary care setting, such as costing, staffing, and marketing.

The book serves as a quick reference to GPs and as a guide to specialists who are likely to become increasingly engaged with their primary care colleagues in providing modern urogynaecological service.

**Sharif IMF Ismail**

# Heart sounds

*For Niall*

Uncoupled now  
But for an umbilical cord  
Tangled with promise  
Still beating. In both directions.

Deliciously plump  
Basted in vernix  
Slippery  
As a young seal.

Compelled to protect you  
Shield you from this new reality  
Buffer the sensory onslaught  
Swaddle you in the familiar.

Colostrum leaks  
Drop by glistening drop  
My heart taps out  
Our muffled Morse:

*Lub dub, lub dub, lub dub.*

**Maureen Kelly**