

INTRODUCTION

The 31st Stoneburner Lecture Series was planned to present an overview of some important aspects of clinical nephrology that we hope are of interest to a wide audience. The faculty for this symposium was drawn largely from the Medical College of Virginia Nephrology Division, and we were fortunate to have Dr. George E. Schreiner, Professor of Medicine at Georgetown University and a long-time friend, as our Stoneburner Lecturer.

Nephrology has grown to a full-fledged specialty in only 20 years; knowledge in the field has burgeoned, and our understanding of renal diseases has changed dramatically in that time. Renal transplantation is now a routine procedure and chronic dialysis programs abound. So routine have these therapeutic modes become that we may lose sight of their costly and awesome social implications.

The audience attending this lecture series came from several states and represented various medical disciplines. They entered freely into the discussion and thus contributed greatly to the value of the presentations. We offer thanks to them, to the lecturers whose presentations are summarized in this issue of the MCV QUARTERLY, and to the Department of Continuing Medical Education whose planning for this symposium was both thorough and efficient.

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