ADENOCARCINOMA:
A cancerous tumour developing from the glandular component of any organ (particularly the prostate or kidney)

ANALGESIC:
A drug used to relieve pain

ANGIOMYOLIPOMA:
A benign tumour of the kidney which arises from blood vessels and fat; it may, if it grows large enough, there is a risk of rupture and cause bleeding into or around the kidney

ANTI-INFLAMMATORY:
A drug which reduces inflammation and helps to relieve pain; often used to treat prostatitis & the pain of kidney stones

AZOOSPERMIA:
The complete absence of sperms in ejaculated semen; one cause of male-factor infertility. Usually due to failure of production of sperms by the testis or to obstruction of the tubing along which sperms normally pass

BALANITIS:
Inflammation of the foreskin or the tip of the penis

BLADDER:
The midline, lower abdominal organ which stores urine prior to its expulsion via the urethra

BPH:
Benign prostatic hyperplasia; benign enlargement of the prostate gland, invariably seen with increasing age

BRACHYTHERAPY:
A type of radiotherapy where radioactive seeds are implanted directly into an organ, usually the prostate gland

BXO:
Balanitis xerotica obliterans; a scarring disease of the foreskin, of unknown cause, which results in a tight foreskin

CALCIUM OXALATE:
The commonest constituent of kidney stones and the type of stone which is most prone to recur

CALCULUS:
A stone, usually in the kidney or ureter, but may also occur on the prostate or bladder
CALYX: The outermost part of the collecting system of the kidney where urine is first released for excretion

CATHETER: A rubber or silicone tube passed into a hollow organ (usually the bladder) to drain its contents

CHEMOTHERAPY: The use of drugs to treat cancer

CHORDEE: A deformity of the penis which results in a bending on erection

CYSTITIS: Inflammation of the internal lining of the bladder

CIRCUMCISION: Surgical removal of the foreskin, usually performed for phimosis

CT: Computerized tomography; a form of X-ray where slices are taken through the body to produce images at different levels

CYSTECTOMY: Surgical removal of the bladder, usually for invasive cancer

CYSTOCELE: Prolapse of the bladder into the vagina

CYSTOGRAM: An X-ray of the bladder where dye is inserted into the bladder using a catheter

CYSTOSCOPY: Inspection of the bladder using a telescope (either flexible or rigid) with an attached light source to illuminate the interior of the bladder

CYTOLOGY: The study of individual cells, usually in the urine, to identify malignancy or other disorders

DILATATION: Stretching or widening of an opening, usually the urethra or neck of the bladder

DIVERTICULUM: An abnormal pouch leading off the cavity of a hollow organ; most commonly seen in the bladder
**DRE:**
Digital rectal examination; usually to feel the prostate gland

**DYSURIA:**
Painful passage of urine

**EMBOLISATION:**
Blocking the artery to an organ by introducing foam, coils or gel under X-ray control using a small catheter placed in the artery

**ENURESIS:**
Incontinence of urine at night usually considered synonymous with bedwetting

**EPIDIDYMIS:**
The sperm-carrying mechanism lying behind the testis which carries sperms from the testis to the vas deferens during ejaculation

**EPIDIDYMITIS:**
Inflammation/infection of the epididymis, often involving the testis as well (epididymo-orchitits)

**ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION:**
Impotence; the inability to obtain or maintain an erection sufficient for penetration and the satisfaction of both sexual partners

**ESWL:**
Extracorporeal shockwave lithotripsy; shockwaves generated in water, focused and emitted through the body to fragment stones in the kidney or ureter

**EXTRAVASATION:**
Leakage of urine or surgical irrigation fluid outside the urinary tract

**EXSTROPHY:**
A congenital condition where the bladder remains on the surface of the lower abdomen open to the outside

**FREQUENCY:**
Passing urine too often, usually during the day

**HAEMATOSPERMIA:**
Blood in the semen during ejaculation

**HAEMATURIA:**
Blood in the urine

**HYDROCELE:**
An abnormal collection of fluid in the naturally-occurring sac which surrounds the testicle
HESITANCY:
Having to wait an abnormally long time for the flow of urine to start

IMMUNOTHERAPY:
Treatment of cancer by stimulating the natural immune response

INCONTINENCE:
Involuntary leakage of urine

IVU:
Intravenous urogram; an X-ray of the kidneys, ureters and bladder performed using an injection of dye into a vein in the arm

KIDNEY:
One of two paired organs (normally) which lie at the back of the abdomen, in front of the lower ribs, and filter the blood to produce urine

LASER:
Light amplification by the stimulated emission of radiation; an energy source for performing some types of urological surgery

LAPAROSCOPE:
A telescope with a light source and camera attached which is inserted into the abdominal cavity (through a small incision) to perform ‘keyhole’ surgery

LITHOTRIPSY:
Type of fragmentation of a stone; usually synonymous with ESWL

LITHOLAPAXY:
Crushing of a stone, usually in the bladder, to reduce it to fragments small enough to be passed spontaneously or removed through an endoscope

LYMPHADENECTOMY:
Surgical removal of lymph nodes to determine whether they are involved with cancer

METASTASIS:
A secondary tumour (remote from the original cancer) which has arisen by spread through the blood, the lymph system or by direct invasion

MRI:
Magnetic resonance imaging; a means of producing cross-sectional images of the body to characterise tissues by the way the electrons in the tissue move in response to a strong magnetic field
NEPHRON:
The microscopic filtering unit in the kidney which filters water and waste products from the blood

NOCTURIA:
Passage of urine at night

PHIMOSIS:
Tightness of the foreskin, either due to a scarring disease or as a result of a congenital abnormality

PARAPHIMOSIS:
Retraction of a tight foreskin which becomes “stuck” due to an inability to return it to its original position covering the head of the penis

POLYURIA:
Over-production of urine, usually at night; often occurs in the elderly due to poor water handling ability with increasing age

PROSTATE GLAND:
A chestnut-sized organ lying at the bottom of the bladder which produces chemicals to nourish sperms and facilitate their transport to the female uterus

PROSTATITIS:
Infection or inflammation of the prostate gland

PROSTHESIS:
An artificial implant used to replace any part of the body (e.g. a testicle)

PSA:
Prostate-specific antigen; a chemical released into the bloodstream by the prostate gland which may be raised in men with prostate cancer

SEMINAL VESICLE:
A sac lying behind the prostate gland which stores seminal fluid and sperms in preparation for ejaculation

TESTOSTERONE:
The main male hormone produced mainly by the testicles (and by the adrenal glands)

TNM:
A staging system for cancer which describes the extent of the primary tumour (T), the lymph nodes (N) and metastases (M)

UROTHELIAL CARCINOMA (aka TRANSITIONAL CELL CARCINOMA):
A malignant (cancerous) tumour arising from the internal lining of the urinary tract
**TUR:**
Transurethral resection, usually of the prostate gland (TURP) or of a tumour in the bladder (TURBT)

**ULTRASOUND:**
High-frequency sound waves used to reflect off tissues to determine their nature

**URETER:**
The thin, muscular tube which propels urine down from the kidneys to the bladder

**URETEROSCOPY:**
Inspection of the ureter (and/or kidney) using a telescope (either flexible or rigid) with an attached light source passed into the bladder and up the ureter towards the kidney

**URETHRA:**
The tube through which urine passes to the outside of the body from the bladder

**URGENCY:**
A sudden, irresistible desire to pass urine

**VARICOCELE:**
An abnormal collection of varicose veins above the testicle, usually on the left side

**VAS DEFERENS:**
A muscular tube which carries sperm from the epididymis into the urethra during ejaculation of semen