

Spermatogenesis - Methods and protocols
Douglas T. Carrel and Kenneth I. Aston
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The spermatogenesis process is comprehensively examined (more than five hundred pages !) with critical analyses provided by internationally reckon specialists in each of the so numerous critical steps the cytodifferentiative process achieves to give rise to mature sperms, not forgetting historically and comparatively aspects. Well, there are XI parts racking up 45 chapters ! Thus, it becomes understandable that this volume has an enlightening destination for us all, doesn't matter if already involved in this fascinating process or just beginners: the price is worthing the value of the volume. Prof. Douglas T. Carrel and Kenneth I. Aston (University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City, UT, USA) wrote in the short preface that *we have attempted to provide a comprehensive summary of protocols used in clinical andrology laboratories, as well as common protocols used in the*

study of spermatogenesis in both the human and the animal models. . . This volume is unique in its breadth and should be a useful reference for clinicians and researchers alike: I vouch for this sentence, it is all true ! Sifting through the chapters of the volume I've been able to find something interesting in each of the chapters, finally coming away with a better understanding of how the process is running, the great achievements we made and, particularly exciting, the room still open for further studies on male germ cell determination and differentiation.

Nearly a *mission impossible* to tell of each of the chapters, I suggest the reader to consider the broad effort achieved by the two Editors in putting together harmoniously and in a sound manner subjects as different as the panoply that made up the different parts and chapters we can go through: from the basic semen analysis methods till the evaluation of the sperm epigenetics, from the classical staging and the histological techniques till the methods for sperm-mediated gene transfer passing through the *in vitro* and *ex vivo* spermatogenesis models.

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