



Department of
UROLOGIC SCIENCES
UBC

Richard J. Wassersug, B.A., Ph.D.



Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, Dalhousie University
Visiting Professor, Department of Urologic Sciences, University of British Columbia

B.A., Tufts University, 1967
Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1973

BACKGROUND

The main focus of Dr. Wassersug's current research is on how males adapt to androgen deprivation and the psychosocial impact of castration. He explores this topic in diverse populations ranging from male-to-female transsexuals to advanced prostate cancer patients. The primary goal of this research is to develop ways to help men and their partners adapt to the side effects of androgen deprivation, which is the most common treatment for systemic prostate cancer. He also investigates other issues related to sexuality, gender and health in various populations.

An important part of Dr. Wassersug's life has been as a science communicator. For ten years, he was a columnist on the TV science news show "*Daily Planet*" as well as "Scientist-in-Residence" for an additional five years for the Canadian Discovery Channel. He has received the two major science communicator awards available in eastern Canada. Since 2000, he has been a science co-panelist for CBC Radio's "Maritime Noon", where he and a colleague do a regular science call-in show. He has also published over 30 essays and reviews in popular newspapers and magazines, such as *Natural History*, *Nature*, *Scientific American*, *New Scientist*, *American Scientist*, *Medical Post*, *New York Times* and *Equinox*.