SfE Hoffenberg International Medal Lecture

Robert McLachlan

Professor Robert McLachlan, FRACP, PhD is a Principal Research Fellow of the Australian NH&MRC and Director of Clinical Research at Prince Henry's Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne, Australia. His interests include male reproductive endocrinology and the evaluation and management of male infertility, and androgen physiology. He is Deputy Director of Endocrinology, Monash Medical Centre and Consultant Andrologist to the Monash IVF program with research interests in the genetics of male infertility. He has published more than 190 original papers and reviews and is Editor of the Male Reproduction Section of www.ENDOTEXT.org. He is a past President of the Fertility Society of Australia and currently a Consultant to the World Health Organisation on male fertility regulation. He is Director of the Andrology Australia, a Federal Government initiative committed to community and professional education and research in male reproductive health.
Hoffenberg was born and educated in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. He was a brilliant student, and studied medicine at the University of Cape Town from 1939, aged only 16. He was also an active sportsman, taking part in tennis, golf, squash, boxing, and rugby. He enlisted in the Union Defence Force in 1942, serving as a stretcher bearer in the Second World War in North Africa and Italy in the 6th South African Armoured Division. He returned to South Africa to complete his degrees, MB and ChB, in 1948. He was an intern at Groote Schuur Hospital, and then a lecturer at the University of Cape Town.