

HISTORY

The History of Prostate Surgery

INTRODUCTION · DRUG TREATMENT · THERMOTHERAPY · TURP · HISTORY

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It has been 125 years since the Dresden physician Maximilian Nitze, in co-operation with the instrument maker, Josef Leiter, presented the first cystoscope in Vienna in 1879. For the first time, this endoscope enabled the diagnosis of bladder illnesses. To took many more years before it was possible to carry out treatments endoscopically – i.e., without making a visible incision.

For over 50 years benign prostate enlargement has been endoscopically treated with the so-called TUR prostate (planing of the benign prostate obstruction through the urethra). To this day, this method is considered the “Gold Standard” among treatments for BPH. Unfortunately, this operation cannot be conducted without complications, despite ever-improved technology. 18 out of 100 men who have undergone this operation suffer from complications resulting solely from this surgical method.

These complications vary in severity – but are always undesirable:

The aforementioned obligates urologic research to develop new methods, which offer men with BPH a simple, effective treatment with few complications.