

Classic Presentations & Rapid Review for USMLE, Step 2

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The book is an attempt to select the most important facts to pass the USMLE step2. It is designed for rapid revision before sitting the Step 2 examination and the work succeeds in providing a good cross-section of information. The areas I particularly liked were psychiatry, pediatrics, statistics and obstetrics. The selection and the quality of the information in these areas is better than good.

The cardiology section, however, needs more scientific editing, for example; in myocardial infarction (Page 104) it was mentioned that Q waves appear in V1 and V2 in cases of posterior myocardial infarction. In fact, in posterior wall myocardial infarction, Q waves do not typically

appear in the mentioned leads, instead, the ECG shows tall R waves.

Additionally, exercise is mentioned as a treatment for unstable angina (Page 103). This fact is generally true; however, the use of words like 'graduated exercise -below the anginal threshold' will be technically better since exercise per se in unstable angina may provoke an ischemic attack. It is important in such life-threatening areas to be specific and leave nothing to interpretation.

Overall, the book is a useful adjunct to those who want to do rapid revision before undertaking step 2 USMLE examination.