Book Review

Short and OSCE cases in internal medicine: Clinical examinations for PACES, MRCPI, Arab Board, and similar examinations (second edition)

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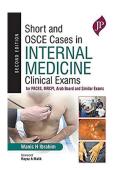
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he second edition of "Short and OSCE Cases in Internal Medicine" [1] is a useful resource that enables candidates to learn the tricks of the clinical examination when preparing for higher specialist examinations such as MRCP (UK) PACES, MRCPI, Arab Board, and other clinical examinations which use the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) format. As compared to the first edition [2], the number of photos and illustrations in the second edition has been considerably expanded to include about 150 photos to enhance the candidate's learning experience. In addition, the author has revised and updated all sections based on new information and advancements in the medical field. Particular emphasis has been placed on a highly professional approach to the case, a competent, succinct, and relevant clinical examination techniques according to the examiner's instruction, and a concise, professional presentation by the candidate. Some mnemonics to help recall long lists also have been included as aide-mémoire.

The "Short and OSCE Cases in Internal Medicine" (second edition) is divided into seven sections, starting with a new section entitled "advice on how to prepare for and pass clinical examinations." The remaining chapters cover cases relevant to different systems. Each section contains several cases which are commonly encountered in the clinical examinations. A "how to examine" paragraph precedes each case in this book, which emphasizes and explains the most competent and professional manner of examination for that case. A paragraph containing the important rules/clues for each case has been added to help candidates understand common practical facts about each case.

However, the book lacks accompanied audio CD or DVD that can help candidates better observe and learn examination techniques. Furthermore, the history-taking and communication skills stations are separated in another book by the same author entitled "History Taking and Communication Skill Stations in Internal Medicine Clinical Examinations."

Despite these minor limitations, the Short and OSCE Cases in Internal Medicine is a very useful reference for any candidate preparing for higher clinical examinations or just using it as a hands-on learning took during clinical work. The author has used his extensive and diverse experience as an examiner to provide candidates with a wealth of information needed while preparing for the clinical examinations. I strongly encourage all the candidates to read this book while preparing for the clinical examinations.



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