

## Platinum Vignettes

The books each have 50 cases. On the right hand side of the page is a classic history and PE for a particular disease. There are also labs on the page which you should look at because they might give you a clue as to what is going on with those patients. However, do NOT think that all the labs drawn were necessary. They usually are not.

After reading that right hand page you should list your differential and then try and figure out which one is the most likely. First try without looking anything up (in other words, see what you know). But then, do not hesitate to look things up to figure out which is most likely. Use that opportunity to also compare and contrast the diseases on your differential so that you know how to diagnose those diseases as well.

Once you have done that, turn the page and on the left hand side you will see the answer. They then will discuss the disease; pathophysiology, diagnosis and treatment, and more high yield information. You will notice that certain things are bolded. They are obviously particularly important. These are really high yield facts.

It is an easy book to go through from cover to cover. If you think about it, you will quickly have learned about 50 diseases and if you also reviewed 3 diseases in your differential, you will have learned another 150 diseases.

This can be accomplished in 1 week.

One reason I am using the Platinum Vignettes is that I think they do a very good job at telling you what is VERY important about the 50 diseases that they cover. This could be a model to you in terms of how you study. You will never be able to learn everything. You are medical students, thus you are building the base or your knowledge pyramid. This is a good place to start. Over time, you can, and should, add to your knowledge. For example, if you already know a lot about a certain disease you can now look up how you would manage this disease or read about unusual presentations. If you are actually caring for a patient with one of these diseases you would clearly read in more depth.

Platinum Vignettes is not a bad way to start a rotation because you can quickly get down some fundamentals thus when you see a patient it is review and you are adding to the knowledge base you already have.

The following are the titles in the Clinical Series:

Surgery & Trauma	Surgical Subspecialties	
Pediatrics	OBG	Psychiatry
Internal Medicine	Internal Medicine Subspecialties	