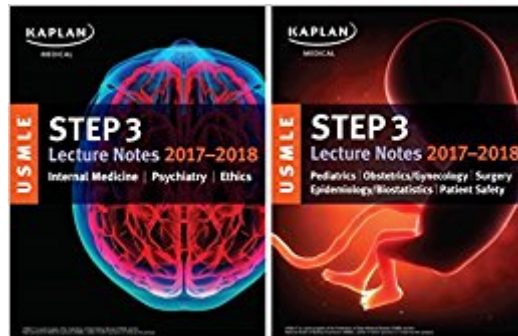


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# USMLE Step 3 Lecture Notes 2017-2018: 2-Book Set (USMLE Prep)



## Synopsis

Kaplan Medical's USMLE Step 3 Lecture Notes 2017-2018: 2-Book Set offers in-depth review with a focus on high-yield topics in every discipline – a comprehensive approach that will help you deepen your understanding while focusing your efforts where they'll count the most. Used by thousands of medical students each year to succeed on USMLE Step 3, Kaplan's official lecture notes are updated biannually by our all-star expert faculty. The two volumes – Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, Ethics; and Pediatrics, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Surgery, Epidemiology/Biostatistics, Patient Safety – work as a set and are not meant to be used individually. The Best Review More than 250 in-depth cases covering every discipline you'll need on this section of the boards Organized in outline format for efficient study Covers the most commonly seen chief complaints Includes basic science correlates likely to be tested on the exam, patient management from the experts, patient safety, and population health. This collection of books assumes mastery of both Step 1 pre-clinical discipline-based and Step 2 CK clinical sciences content, both of which are covered in Kaplan's official Lecture Notes bundles.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

For over 40 years, Kaplan Medical has been dedicated to helping aspiring doctors prepare for and pass their medical licensing exams. We are proud to offer the most innovative study tools available on the market and our dedicated staff of expert advisors and faculty ensures that doctors and

medical students receive the guidance and support they need. At Kaplan Medical, our students' success is our goal.

This is a set of 2 books, and both are full of case studies. I think that the best way to review this book is to type-out a case study for you to read here since there the "Look Inside" feature is not available with these books.

**Chief Complaint:** Chronic cough

**History and physical examination:** A 28 year-old woman comes to the clinic for evaluation of intermittent cough over the last few months. She recently started running several times a week and has noticed that the cough is much worst after she returns. She has noticed occasional wheezing as well, particularly on cold days. She is a nonsmoker and is otherwise healthy.

**She is a well-developed, well nourished woman in no acute distress.** Her temperature is 36.7C (98.0 F), BP 108/70 mm Hg, pulse 64/min, and respiration 18/min. Physical examination is unremarkable.

**Differential Diagnosis:** 1. Exercise-induced asthma/exercise-induced bronchoconstriction 2. Gastroesophageal reflux 3. Postnasal drip (upper airway cough)

**Assessment:** This clinical presentation of exercise-induced cough is a common variant of asthma. Symptoms are often worst after exercise is completed. The normal PTFs (performed at rest) do not rule out this diagnosis. A methacholine challenge test should be performed to confirm this diagnosis. However the clinical diagnosis is probably adequate, and the patient may be empirically treated.

**Other common noninfectious causes of coughs include allergic rhinitis, postnasal drip, and gastroesophageal reflux disease. However, there is no evidence to support these other causes in this patient.**

**Treatment Plan:** 1. Inhaled beta agonists before exercise, such as albuterol 2. Cromolyn is sometimes used as an alternative.

**Discussion:** [4 paragraphs of information follows]

**Final Diagnosis:** Exercise-induced asthma

I ordered this to supplement first aid step 3 and have not been disappointed. I learn by reading cases, diagnostic workups and treatments and that's exactly how this review series is formatted. Kaplan really gets it that active problem based learning is the most effective method for studying... Especially for a test that emphasizes clinical management more so than random questions about the Krebs cycle or chromosome translocations or specific tumor markers.

**What's worked well for me:** bringing first aid for step 3 to study during MSIV rotation downtime, then make notes of areas I'm weak on, then going home and studying those cases in Kaplan. I also use and highly recommend [onlinemeded](#) , a series of free video lecture reviews. Best of luck to all you folks on our final board exam! Finish Strong and keep trucking!

Product is as advertised. Concise, complete and sound.

Where Step 2 is merely memorization, Step 3 at least gets interesting with the need for some scientific reasoning and thought. The process of figuring out a differential diagnosis, and of applying all that basic science knowledge that you spent so much time learning, is where the practice of medicine is differentiated from everything else. These rather hefty series of lecture notes help you learn the process, and in the meantime they've been updated to the contemporary guidelines and diagnostic manuals (such as DSM-5 for psychiatry). The world is always changing, and there's likely to be more of a focus on opioid use disorders and certain ethical dilemmas than there was two years ago, and there lies the need to constantly update the lecture notes. Yes, you can use the last edition and learn the process necessary for taking the test, but the new edition focuses on the right material as well, so your score will probably be just a tad higher if you get the newer version.

Both books are very well structured. Each Section dedicated to a specialty is divided into chapters, and each chapter contains around 5 to 15 cases. Each case consists of the following sub-sections: Chief Complaint\* History and Physical Examination\* Differential Diagnosis\* Clues\* Initial Management\* Diagnosis/Therapeutic Plan\* Test Results\* Assessment\* Physical Examination\* Diagnosis Findings\* Treatment\* Discussion\* Final Diagnosis\* Case Review. Often you will find Patient Safety Note or Clinical Pearl on the margins. It is not all perfect: the header font is confusing and does not always correlate with the hierarchical structure, but this is tolerable. To sum up: this is a well written and well organized a compendium of medical cases.

For years I have been searching for good lecture notes for my Nurse Practitioner wife here on and I always had a tough time. When I went outside of , I had an ever tougher time and the price was usually way over the budget. This 2 book set is fabulous - I was surprised to see my wife so excited about it and also admit it - since I tend to overdo my shopping and time spent online (normally, she keeps a stone face when I get her something she likes from ). She loves the cases , the reviews and discussions, and the explanations of the answers that are provided. Definitely recommended.

These books are a wealth of information. The case studies themselves and the "clinical pearls" are all fascinating and teach in a way that's practical, not boring. There is one disappointment though: only one of the books (Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, Ethics) has photos and many of the photos are from Wikipedia and are thus already in the public domain. You would think for the price there would

be more and better quality photos.Despite the gripe, these books should be a big help in taking Step 3 of the USMLE.

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