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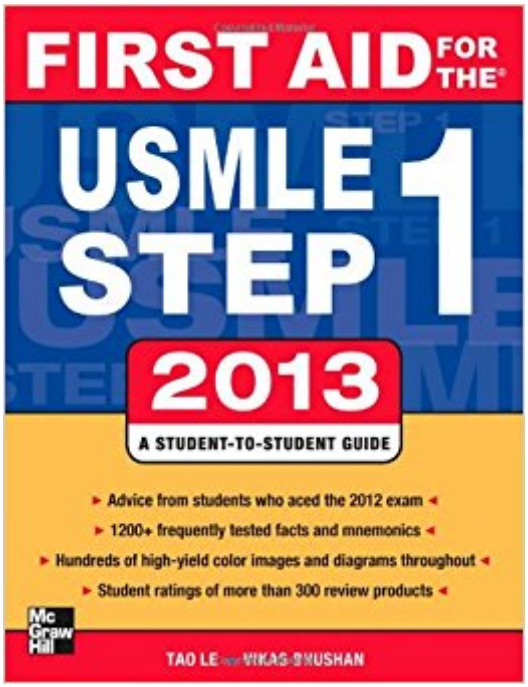

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Synopsis

THE WORLD'S BESTSELLING MEDICAL REVIEW BOOK--WITH MORE THAN 1,200 FREQUENTLY TESTED FACTS AND MNEMONICS Conveniently organized by organ system and general principles 125+ color clinical photographs integrated throughout the text Hundreds of full-color illustrations clarify essential concepts and improve retention Rapid-review section for last-minute cramming Detailed test-taking strategies to help you maximize your study time Hundreds of student-recommended USMLE Step 1 review resources Advice from students who aced the 2012 exam 1200+ frequently tested facts and mnemonics Hundreds of high-yield color images and diagrams throughout Student ratings of more than 300 review products

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Tao Le, MD, MHS (Louisville, KY) is Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics and Chief, Section of Allergy and Immunology at University of Louisville. He is also affiliated with the Division of Allergy and Immunology at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Vikas Bhushan, MD (Los Angeles, CA) is a practicing diagnostic radiologist. Junior Editors and contributors are students at Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut.

After going through the entire book, I can say three things about it: pictures, organization, and clarification. That said, the "content" area is not much any different than the 2014 edition. There are,

however, few new drugs and pathologies added in subsequent organ systems (reason I bought it). This edition is all about new, colorful pictures and images in the neurology section on the eye are just too good. There is also particular material that was taken off in 2014 and now added in 2015 (i.e. Lac operon in biochemistry). I feel like the overall clarity, and the way this book is organized in terms of relating one page to another is done quite nicely in this edition.So should you buy the 2015 FA if you already have 2014?Well, that depends on when you are planning to take your test. If you are planning on taking it within a month, have a lot of notes in the 2014 edition, or just don't feel like spending another 50 bucks or so then you should stick with 2014. If your exam is a couple of months away as in the summer of 2015, then I think you should get this edition and start making notes in it. So bottom line is that if you have 2014 and if you want to get the 2015 edition for new content solely then don't, stick with 2014 because the content overall is the same. I gave this took a 5 star because it has everything 2014 had (all errors fixed) and the additional few drugs/path info that are passed from past test takers (which is what we want right!!).One con about the new 2015, at least for me right now is that the pages are very cheaply done again (why don't they get the pages like Goljan path??). I made few lines using a Pilot G-2 pen, and I could see the lines on the other side so you might not want to use a heavily inked pen. Also, the book I have, some of the texts in the tables are a bit blurry or out of focus (this may be just in my book) so watch out for that.Update (5/7/15)Official Errata FA 2015 (http://www.firstaidteam.com/updates-and-corrections)

Binding fell apart within two days of receiving this book... Terrible quality compared to the 2014 version.

I've have opened this book twice and the binding is already coming apart. This is pathetic McGraw Hill.

Having just begun preparing for Step I (May 29 is the day!), I eagerly picked up the newest copy of First Aid. And by newest copy, I'm referring to the actual physical text, not the Kindle version. I've been working with the 2012 edition, but picked up the 2013 edition as I plan on doing Doctor's In Training 2013, and they require the most up-to-date text. I haven't read the book through in earnest yet, but from my quick skimmings, what I have noticed is that most of the content is very similar to the 2012 edition, except that the HUGE list of errata from the 2012 edition has been corrected. Other than that, you'll find a few picture tweaks here and there, but nothing major. I did notice the cover is made of a newer material this year, which is much hardier than previous editions, not to

mention more "spill-proof."I have since had the binding from my copy removed and the text 3-hole punched, and was relieved to find that a typical 3-hole punch will not punch out any words or graphics. Now my edition is in a nice binder, ready for annotation and adding of other material as I see fit.If I come across any huge errors or problems with this text, I'll update my review, but as for now, I'm pleased with the updates they've made.EDIT: I have noticed some errors as I have gone into my devoted Step I study period, but they are still much less than that of the 2012 edition. I still like the small changes they made (like incorporating embryology into each section rather than give it its own chapter) and think this is one of the better releases! Check First-Aid's website for a most up-to-date list of 2013 errata.

As a current owner of First Aid 2010 (which was used as an accessory, alongside my basic sciences), I purchased the 2011 edition in order to stay up to date. However, this edition is virtualy one and the same as the 2010 edition, with the exception of the following:- The text is in darker print, hence sharper on the eyes and more legible.- A few of the dedicated NOTES pages have been collectively moved from the end of certain chapters to the very end of the book. As a result, some sections have fewer pages, or begin at different page numbers, as indicated by the index.Other than that, it's still a great source for Step 1. Although this edition is cheaper than the 2010 (at the time of this writing at least), I suppose it's somewhat a releif that this edition remains unchanged. For the current 2010 edition owners, there's no update necessary, and nothing new to revise! I hope this offers some advice to anyone unsure as to whether they should update to this new edition. Thank you and God bless!

The high-yield content is excellent, and this is a staple for any medical student in the first two years of school. The Kindle format, however, is clunky, slow, and outdated compared to Inkling. Why is this title not available via the Inkling platform? I almost exclusively buy textbooks which are packaged with Student- or ExpertConsult, which enables me digital access via Inkling. I say 'almost', because I made an exception for this valuable title. If the publishers are reading this, I strongly urge them to consider broadening platforms and license with Inkling, or if Kindle folks are reading this, then I ask you to improve the Kindle format for medical text books; an investment in this area will yield a better customer experience and lead to higher sales in the future. Thanks.Update: I bought a new PC with Windows 8, and this title is not compatible with Windows 8. Very inconvenient. Downgrading to 1 star.

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