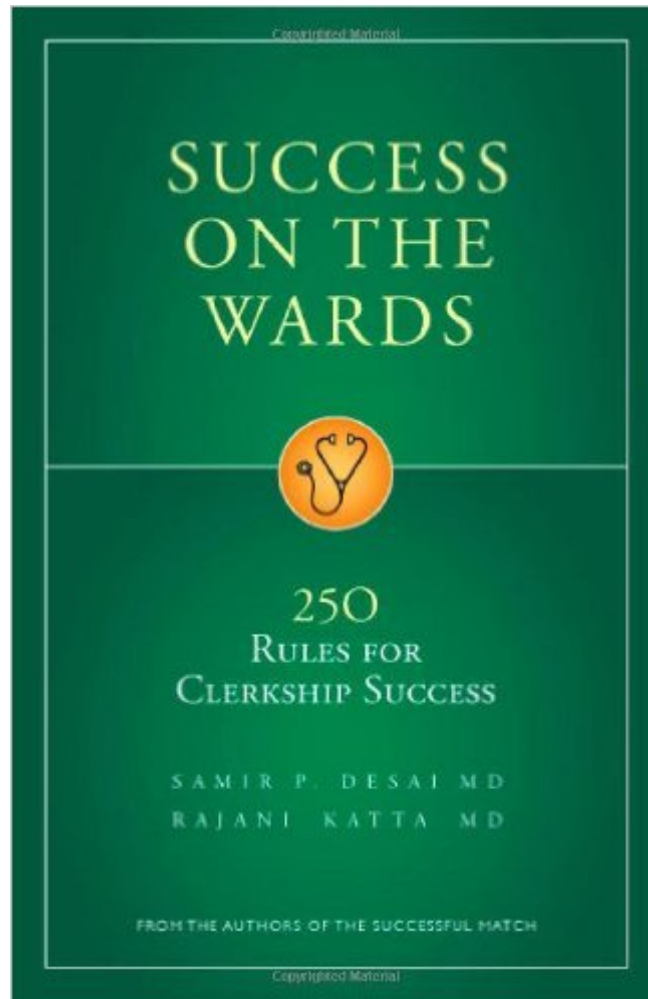


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Success On The Wards: 250 Rules For Clerkship Success



Synopsis

This is an absolute must-read for students entering clinical rotations. The authors of *Success in Medical School: Insider Advice for the Preclinical Years* bring their same combination of practical recommendations and evidence-based advice to clerkships. The book begins as a how-to guide, with clerkship-specific templates, such as op notes and admission orders, along with sample notes and guides for every aspect of core clerkships (internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology, psychiatry, family medicine). The book reviews proven strategies for success in patient care, write-ups, rounds, and other vital areas. Grades in required rotations are the most important academic criteria used to select residents, and this critical year can determine career choices as well. This book shows students what they can do now to position themselves for match success. An invaluable resource for medical students - no student should be without it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I sincerely believe this should be a required text. I unfortunately did not purchase this book until half way through my third year but I really wish I would have. Before I started I had read other books such as FIRST AID for the WARDS and other texts at my school library but none of those books really help you understand the expectations and the culture of the wards. From my own personal experience I found it very easy to be a medical student. It was easy to be a student, go to the library, stream lectures from my laptop and occasionally go in and only be expected to know information on exam day. It was very difficult transitioning from that kind of learning to one where

you are immersed in a culture where every day is essentially a pop quiz and sometimes you are evaluated on how much you know but how you present yourself and your information. I remember thinking that I wish my school had done a better job in helping me transition to the wards and after I picked up this book I remember thinking this is exactly the text I should have read before my core clerkships. The authors also do a very good job of incorporating quotes and surveys so that you know this book isn't simply their opinion. Rather it was produced after years of research and data seeking. Needless to say the second half of my rotations went very well and I attribute it to this book.

This book is poorly written and repeats itself over and over. Each chapter is written as if it were its own essay, then all the essays were bound together without editing out the repetitive data in each chapter. For example, the intro. chapter provides mini-summaries of each rotation and all them have identical language that residency programs will look at all your clerkship grades, not just the speciality you are applying to...why not just write "all the residencies will look at ALL clerkship grades, so do well in them all." Then provide specifics to each clerkship. Then the entire intro chapter is the beginning of each clerkship chapter. This book would be about 100 pages if it was well written and edited to be concise and "high yield" (seems so ironic for a book aimed at medical students!!). There is some good information in the book, but you have to suffer through the same data in multiple paragraphs and in every chapter.

Nearly 2/3's done with 3rd year rotations, and the only thing that's really benefited me out of this book are their formats for SOAP notes and presentations. Other than that, I haven't really used anything else in this book and I've honored every rotation so far.

I highly recommend reading this book before rotations. Here's why, 1. The book starts with sections for each clerkship. Very high-yield. Templates/ checklists/ sample notes, etc, for every scenario. I'm reviewing the pediatric H&P, the daily progress note, and how to pre-round. Excellent guides here. 2. Since this is related to The Successful Match: 200 Rules to Succeed in the Residency Match [read that one early on if you're trying for a difficult field], there's strong info on matching advice-ie actual quotes from residency program directors, USMLE scores, scheduling fourth year, etc 3. Great sections on case presentations and writeups, and great chapter on what students can do to improve patient care. Bonus: chapter on giving presentations, which are required in some of our rotations. If you didn't have strong workshops on how to give a case presentation/writeup, then you really need

to read those sections.4. Every thing I've read says that if you want to match well, you have to be able to honor rotations, and I wasn't sure how to get those grades, since rotation grades are so different than just taking a test. The chapter on evaluations was really eye opening.Great book-read it before you start!

Wow!!This book is a true gem for anyone doing a clinical clerkship... an upperclass friend mentioned this to me and I thought I'd check it out, and it blew me away.Starting clinical rotations can be scary... this book walks you through so many things you need to know (but are never told!).Why this book is a good read:1) Must-know pearls for succeeding: The book has chapters for each of the core clerkships (Medicine, Peds, Surgery, Psych, Ob/Gyn, etc.). Each chapter has tips for success. Critical skills for a clerkship are how to give a good oral presentation, and how to make a succinct and salient writeup. This book gives you a step-by-step approach for both oral presentations and writeups. You can hit the ground running rather than learning through trial-by-fire.2) How to get letters of recommendations and apply for residency: If you're interested in pursuing a career in Medicine, Peds, Psych, Ob/Gyn, etc., there is information about how to get Letters of Rec, strengthening your application, doing a sub-I, what electives to do, how to schedule your 4th year. And they even have quotes from actual program directors about the residency selection process.3) First day tips: how to start a new rotation, what you should ask your intern, resident and attending physician, and generally just how to get off to a good start.4) Write-ups and Oral Case presentations: 2 vital skills on which you are evaluated on clerkships. This book has chapters dedicated to each skill, and how to excel at each.5) Evaluations: how are you evaluated, what do residents and attendings care about.Every student entering a clinical clerkship needs to know this information. Here it is, all in one place. Don't rely on haphazard advice from upperclassmen or studentdoctor... get this book before you start your rotations, you'll be happy you did!

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