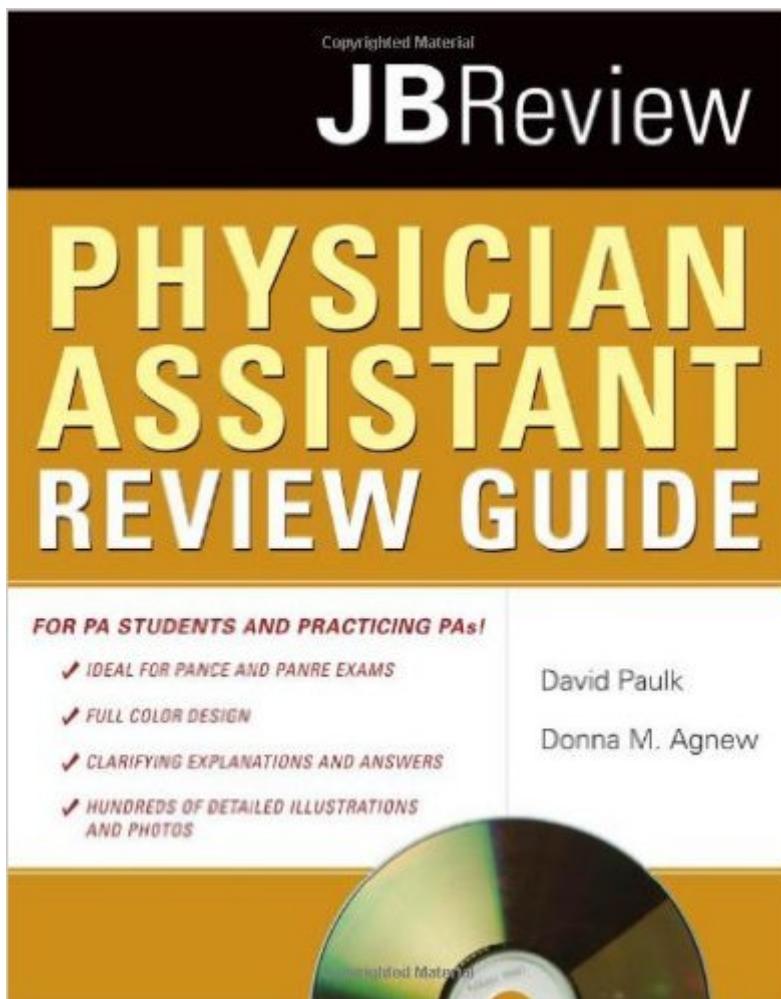


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# Physician Assistant Review Guide



## **Synopsis**

Physician Assistant Review Guide is a comprehensive overview for physician assistants preparing for the Physician Assistant National Certifying (PANCE) or Re-certifying exam (PANRE). This guide extensively covers every topic PAs need to know, including cardiology, dermatology, emergency medicine, infectious diseases, neurology, oncology, pediatrics, women's health, and more. Also features a straightforward question format with questions designed for both new graduates and practicing clinicians, as well as test-taking strategies, detailed illustrations and photographs, explanations to the answers with accompanying artwork, and clear connections between the best evidence-based clinical practice and subject matter testing. **FEATURES** Ideal review for the PANCE and PANRE exams Over 1088 questions included in the content review chapters FULL color photos and images for great reader comprehension Detailed answer rationales Test-taking strategies Organized by body systems, each chapter is written and peer reviewed by subject experts for the most up-to-date information connecting evidence-based clinical practice with exam review. Please note: Electronic formats of this review guide do not include the CD ROM.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Last week I went through this entire volume in preparation for my own upcoming recertification exam and found myself more frustrated and annoyed than assisted with my review process. While the book is extremely impressive in both scope and use of illustrations, it is more than disappointing in the quality of the questions. Nearly every test-writing "sin" is included many times over:

non-focused stems, negative stems, non-parallel distractors, inclusion of information that is not pertinent in some questions, lack of sufficient detail in others. In addition, in some chapters questions on the same topic (and their answers/explanations) contradict one another. Some questions have two possible right answers. The grammar in the explanations is erratic. Compared with other review books this one shines in scope and illustrations, as mentioned above. As a useful review tool and preparation for test-taking, it is a "poor relation." The prompt release of a revised edition re-edited by an expert in test-writing (there are many in the PA world) and reviewed by a competent proof-reader would make this much more useful. It is potentially one of the best of the available review books.

Overall, I think this is a good book for someone wanting a quick review. The difficulty of the questions varies but I feel it's a generally a good mix: some obvious ones, some that you can narrow down to two choices pretty easily but in the end you'll just have to guess, etc. That was pretty reflective of what I saw in the PANCE two years ago (which, by the way, was easier than I thought it would be if that helps any of you aspiring PA's). The explanations for the questions were very thorough, although there were just a few times when the wording of the explanation was not as clear as I'd like it to be. However, since this is just a question/answer review guide and not an outline review guide, I was okay with pulling another source to further explain what I had difficulty understanding. The pictures of the dermatology section alone are much more helpful than other review books; I will say that there were a few questions in that section involving lesions that I've never heard of and/or don't think would show up in the exam (admittedly though, dermatology is not a favorite subject of mine and not my strongest area clinically). I was also appreciative of the EKG, Pharmacology, Radiology and Laboratory Medicine sections, which you don't find in other review books. I often found the questions in these sections were things I should know or things I knew at one point and have since forgotten, and was thankful to be reminded of the correct answers. The General Practice section was pretty fun for me to take since I work at a Family Practice clinic and was very reflective of my everyday life.

I agree with the above assessment, but want to add that the CD rom that came with the book fails to work at all. It did install some sort of equation program, but I don't need that. I need PANCE questions. Contacting tech support lead to an email on how to install software. Wow, like that is the problem. I don't even know if it is worth the deal at \$43 to have poor questions and an empty cd rom.

This book is a very helpful compliment to either your own study material or a review guide that contains outlines. It can be used as you are beginning the review process to see what topics you feel fairly comfortable with/identify topics to which you need to devote some time, or towards the end of your review process to see how you're doing and what you still need help with. The questions have a good variety, ranging from obvious to quite challenging. In general, the explanations were thorough, although not sufficient as your ONLY review source. The overall breadth of the topics is unmatched. I own several other review books and don't feel it was a waste to invest in one more. This book covers all the topics found in my other review books, plus Lab Medicine, Physical Diagnosis, Radiology, and an EKG rhythm review. In addition, the impressive amounts of color pictures are not found in other books. As far as the test writing "sins" stated in another review, I have never written a test and did not easily notice these errors. I did notice the occasional typo/mistake in the question or the explanation, but did not find it to be distracting from the overall content of the book. Personally, in PA school I learned just as much from getting a question wrong on a test as reading about something in a book, so I really value a book like this with hundreds of questions that I can use as practice.

Ok, when it came to Pance I mainly studied off CMEs, packrats, and Comprehensive review book made with the help of AAPA. I decided to order this book mainly because of the pics. I didn't have enough time to look at this book but I did look at it at least 1 chapter and I have to tell you that it was beautifully written even though some of the questions were too long. I can't really tell you if it helps with PANCE or not but many of my friends told me that it helped them.

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