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PEDIATRICS BOARD REVIEW®

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EFFICIENT LEARNING So You Can Enjoy Life & Have More Fun!

Written by Ashish Goyal, MD

www.PediatricsBoardReview.com

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INTRODUCTION TO THE "EASY" PBR EXPERIENCE! (Read This!!!)



Hi there! I'm Ashish Goyal, the author and creator of Pediatrics Board Review (PBR). I've had the privilege of guiding thousands of pediatricians through their board exams. As a double-boarded physician living on a remote landmass, I've seen my work impact pediatricians nationwide.

More than just study materials, PBR is a system designed to limit overwhelm, give clear direction, and maximize efficiency. You'll be given the essential information needed to ace the boards, without all of fluff. The results speak for themselves and demonstrate that PBR is ideal for first-timer test-takers and those who are at high risk of failing.

The key to our success has been the **PBR Certification System**. The system is built around **clear and concise information and guidance**. The concise information is available in both **hardcopy and digital formats**, and the guidance tells you exactly how to use the resources, and wehen. All you have to is follow the checklist.

This multimodal and formulaid approach has not only been shown to enhance learning and retention, but it also places a strong emphasis on test-taking strategies—a focus I've been pioneering for over a decade to achieve seemingly impossible results, such as helping one pediatrician who passed on his 10th attempt and another pediatrician finally find success on her 11th attempt.

PBR is the **ONLY** pediatric review to offer this approach. It was created for first-time test-takers to help them pass easily, but has made miracles happen for those who have previously failed.

Our knowledge base resources include a Core Study Guide, a Q&A book, online editions of our books, an audio course, a video course, and a Virtual Atlas of Pediatric Pictures. Information is **presented in the same order** so your efforts are maximized for efficiency.

Our "success accelerator" resources include live ASK THE EXPERT webinars, ASK THE EXPERT question portals for every chapter in the Core Study Guide, Personalized Study Schedules created for you by Team PBR, Blueprints for Success based on your risk profile, an Online Test-Taking Strategies Course, a Live Test-Taking Strategies & Deep Study Course, a private online community, and much more.

PBR is tailored for a wide range of needs – from **residents** needing to increase ITE scores to **first-time ABP exam** takers to, to **repeate test-takers**, to pediatricians preparing for the **recertification exams** and those in need of **CME/MOC credits**.

More than just study materials, PBR is an **integrated system** offering **content**, **test-taking skills**, **personal guidance**, and **passionate community support** to help you **cement knowledge and surpass your expectations**. Our alumni's success demonstrates that **our system is all you need** to pass your exams.

PBR's first-time pass rate for the ABP initial certification exam is estimated at **98%**, which is significantly higher than the national average of **81-84%**.

In short, Team PBR and I aim to help you *get* board certified and *stay* board certified. We're passionate about what we do, and we're always here to help. Please reach out if you need anything along your journey!

All the best,

Ashish & Team PBR

WHAT CHALLENGES IS PBR SYSTEM SOLVING FOR YOU?

EFFICIENCY THROUGH SYSTEMS AND INNOVATION

Most board review books and courses simply hand you a book and say, "good luck." That's how I studied for the USMLE exams, the pediatric board exam (twice) and the internal medicine board exam. I was completely isolated! After purchasing thousands of dollars of board materials, I was left to go through the books and video courses with no real guidance, no feedback from my peers, and absolutely no advice from the authors (besides a one-page preface).

NO MORE ISOLATION

Because of how excruciatingly painful that was, I've created a community of pediatricians for you to study with and a blueprint of what to study, how to study it and how to do so EFFICIENTLY!

GUIDED TO SUCCEED

ALL of PBR's resources are created with your *time* **in mind**. I've aimed to solve these questions over the years:

- * Will the resource be easy to use?
- * Will it provide more value than existing resources AND provide that value in a more streamlined fashion?
- * Can we make the resource easily accessible via smartphones and tablets?
- * Will the resource reinforce the core concepts laid out in the PBR and in the Q&A book instead of overwhelming you with new concepts?
- * Can we make the resource **portable** (e.g., audio or video?) so that it can be used at times when a physician, or a mom, or a dad, or a gym-enthusiast, would not normally be able to study?
- * Can we teach you how to **become a better studier** and maximize your time in front of the books **through Deep Study**?
- * Can we assist by creating Personalized Study Schedules for you that map out your study time?
- * Can we help you become a better test-taker through courses on test-taking strategy?
- * Can we create an easy-to-follow formula for success?

PBR is a <u>system</u> unlike anything you have ever experience before in your medical career. The Core Study Guide is written in easy-to-understand language and provides you with hundreds of time-saving memory aids. The online systems allow for one-click access to hundreds of high-yield images across the web. The Q&A book has some of the highest yield and most board-relevant questions available.

You also have a ready-made study group of hundreds of pediatricians to help you EFFICIENTLY blow past trouble spots in your studying. Plus, your questions, requests for clarification, and submissions of potential errors are all used to create a Corrections & Clarifications Guide that is released annually to the entire PBR community right before the initial certification exam to give you a boost in your knowledge base and understanding of the materials.

All of these efficiency-focused systems **SAVE YOU OVER 100 HOURS OF TIME** and give you **flexibility in your life to enjoy your family, your friends, or to reinvest that time** into repetition of the PBR material.

A critical component of ANY individualized board review plan is to go through the study material MULTIPLE times. PBR is concise, makes the learning manageable, and will allow you to feel confident on your test day because of well-prepared you are for your exam.

WHAT IS THE BEST BUNDLE FOR ME?

→ PGY1 – PGY2 (IN-TRAINING EXAM PREPARATION)

Your main goal should be exposure to board-relevant content. I recommend that you either get the **Ultimate Bundle Pack + MP3 Bundle** or the **ALL ACCESS PASS**. If you want to sign up for multiple years to ensure access through the date of your exam, email us to get a big discount. For group discounts, visit www.pbrlinks.com/GROUPS.

→ INITIAL CERTIFICATION EXAM PREPARATION (PGY3 & HIGHER)

In general, the **NO BRAINER** and the **VIP BUNDLE** are the best bundles. The No Brainer is the one that most low-risk initial certification exam takers enroll into. It gives you everything you need to develop your fund of knowledge while also providing our introductory Online Test-Taking Strategies Course to help you learn test-taking strategies. You also get up to three 90-Day Personalized Study Schedules created for you by Team PBR.

→ WHAT IS YOUR RISK PROFILE? IF YOU DON'T KNOW... YOU COULD BE IN TROUBLE.

Your plan of attack MUST be based on how likely you are to pass or fail. What is your risk profile? If you don't know, please visit www.pbrlinks.com/RISK-CALCULATOR immediately and find out.

For **LOW-RISK** test-takers, the **ALL ACCESS PASS** is also a very good option. It focuses on a multimodal learning experience to develop your fund of knowledge and gives you access to our ASK THE EXPERT live webinars and online question portals. This bundle does not focus on test-taking strategy, and it only offers one 90-Day Personalized Schedule. The assumption is that you tend to do very well on exams, you've never failed any medical board exam, and you are very good with time management.

For **MODERATE-RISK** test-takers, the **NO BRAINER** or the **VIP BUNDLE** would be the bundles to choose from. The No Brainer includes the All Access Pass, the Online Test-Taking Strategies Course, and it also offers three Personalized Study Schedules created by Team PBR. **However**, this exam is not like any other medical board exam you have taken, and implementing the teachings and strategies from the VIP Bundle (discussed below) will ensure that you pass! So, it's my belief that the "insurance" is worth it.

For **HIGH-RISK** test-takers, the **VIP BUNDLE** is the right choice. It includes the No Brainer and a seat in one of our Live Test-Taking Strategies & Deep Study Courses. These courses help you with advanced test-taking strategies and allows you to break through the plateau that you will reach if you only use our Online Test-Taking Strategies Course. The Deep Study lectures are often called "life changing" because they help you become a MUCH better manager of your time, your energy, your life's priorities, and your focus. The VIP BUNDLE also includes Group Deep Dive calls to help you understand PBR's best practices and to help you break through barriers during your board prep.

→ MOCA-PEDS ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

You **do not** need the PBR Core Study Guide and Q&A Book. They are good supportive resources, but we have a very inexpensive MOCA-PBR Study Guide & Test Companion that is specifically created to help you pass your quarterly questions. Every year, we create 1-page topic summaries to cover ALL of the ABP Learning Objectives and Featured Readings for General Pediatrics in concise, 3-page summaries. If we do our job right, you will pass without needing to study anything else!

→ MOC EXAM (4-HOUR, PROCTORED RECERTIFICATION EXAM)

This is a smaller, easier version of the initial certification exam. For most board-certified pediatricians, the **Ultimate Bundle Pack + MP3 Bundle** or the **ALL ACCESS PASS** are sufficient. If you are someone who has struggled with standardized exams in the past, then you should enroll into the **NO BRAINER** bundle.

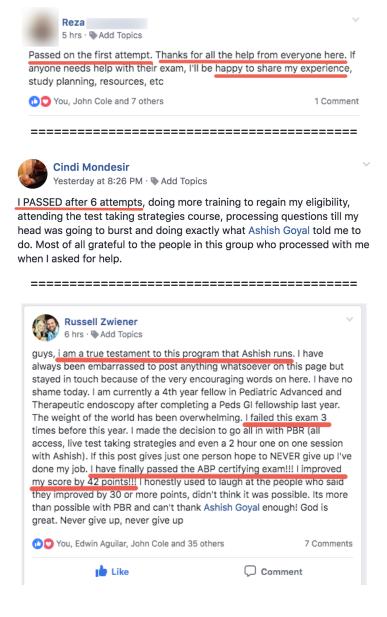
Still not sure? Contact us and we'll guide you further!

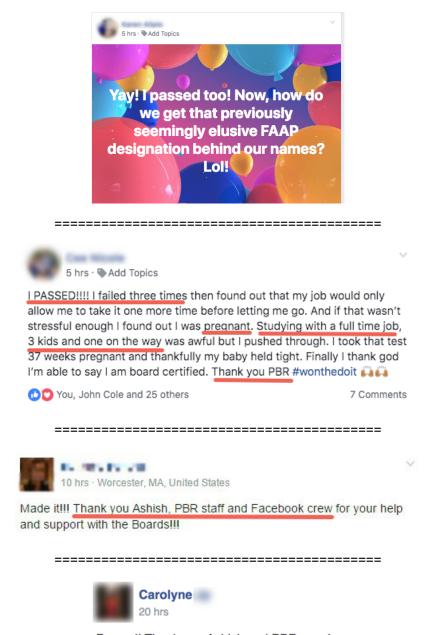
WHAT ARE THE 7+ RESOURCES THAT YOU HAVE ACCESS TO?

The ALL ACCESS PASS and the NO BRAINER are by far the most popular memberships for anyone taking the initial certification board exam. If you have one of these, please make sure you take advantage of <u>all</u> of these resources! If you are at moderate or high risk of failing, please also read the previous page because the VIP Bundle might be the right one for you!

1. PBR'S COMMUNITY! This includes Ashish Goyal, "Team PBR," PBR's summertime webinar content experts, and the MEMBERS-ONLY DISCORD GROUP. JOIN THE INVITE-ONLY DISCORD GROUP NOW! Do not study in isolation! You have a community of pediatricians to support you. The COMMUNITY aspect is one of the most valuable components of the PBR system. Studying for a board exam can be GRUELING, but having others to lean on for clarification, advice or just some moral support can make all the difference in your studying experience. Just have a look!

PRIOR PRIVATE COMMUNITY COMMENTS FROM BEFORE WE RECENTLY SWITCHED TO DISCORD





Passed! Thank you Ashish and PBR crew!

Visit the following link to join our community: www.pbrlinks.com/community

- 2. HARDCOPY PBR CORE STUDY GUIDE: YOU WILL LOVE YOUR "PBR!" It is at the center of your success blueprint. Carry it everywhere, highlight it, draw pictures, create mnemonics and add notes to help you cement the 2500+ MUST-KNOW topics in this book. After your exam, I promise you that you will MISS IT!
- 3. HARDCOPY PBR Q&A BOOK: KNOW this book! It is NOT a random collection of questions. The material should be considered CORE material for you to study over and over again. Carry it around and mark it up! Make sure you review this book as many times as you review the Core Study Guide.
- 4. ONLINE VERSIONS OF THE PBR CORE STUDY GUIDE: All 2500+ topics are available in a scrolling PDF style format and in a topic-by-topic, searchable format. Keep this open and use the one-click

image links while you study or after each two-hour block of studying. It's iPhone/smartphone compatible, iPad/tablet compatible and desktop compatible.

- **5. ONLINE VERSION OF THE PBR Q&A BOOK**: Have a few minutes while at work? Open the scrolling PDF version of the Q&A book and go through one or two questions.
- 6. PBR WEBSITE: The website has a TREMENDOUS amount of valuable content. Each article was written to help address a need expressed by pediatricians. Read as many of the articles as you can! There is also a TOOLS section where you can find links to discounted pediatric board review question banks.
- 7. PBR'S TEST-TAKING STRATEGIES: Physicians are not taught HOW to take tests. GOOD pediatricians with sound clinical reasoning WRONGLY believe that a board exam is a measure of one's knowledge base, and thus a measure of one's abilities as a clinician. That is completely false.

Exams require mastery of the English language, mastery of pacing, mastery of your emotional state during an exam, and an understanding of the **deceptive tactics** employed by question-writers to create **seemingly possible yet blatantly WRONG** answer choices.

PBR's **ONLINE TEST-TAKING STRATEGIES & COACHING COURSE** (included in the No Brainer bundle) offers **insights into this "board game."** You will stop viewing question as miniature patients and start viewing them as miniature riddles. Riddles with concrete rules and strategies to help you reach the correct answer quickly (**even when you often lack the clinical knowledge!**). Understanding the rules of the game will completely change your outlook on how to prepare for the exam and how to use board review questions for PRACTICE instead of content. **I HIGHLY recommend the PBR Test-Taking Strategies & Coaching Course for anyone who is taking the boards, but especially for those who are "at risk." This includes you if:**

- You have failed this exam at least once
- You typically score below the national average on your board exam scores
- You have failed ANY USMLE Step exam
- You were classified as "at risk" during residency based on your in-training exam scores
- You are more than 1 year out of residency

The course helps you understand the **techniques and skills** associated with answering board-style questions correctly. **We've helped MANY pediatricians finally pass the boards after failing multiple times, including ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR, FIVE, SIX, SEVEN, NINE, and TEN times! So, helping you should be easy.**

To get just a taste of how you can increase your board scores immediately, and to learn a few of the rules to the "board game," click here and read a PBR article I wrote titled, "3 Strategies to Skyrocket Your Score!" - www.pediatricsboardreview.com/techniques

Also, visit **www.pediatricsboardreview.com/strategy** and watch a FREE test-taking strategies session right now.

TEST-TAKING STRATEGY COURSE MEMBER TESTIMONIALS

(FROM MEMBERS OF OUR ONLINE COURSE AND/OR OUR LIVE COURSE)

Ashish, I did it. I can't thank you enough for creating an amazing system to keep me on track with my studying. And the \$2000 for the live weekend test taking course was well worth it. Doing the technique during the test kept me focused and allowed me to eliminate wrong answers. Thank you for all the great advice, sticking to the was end

material, memorize, memorize then practice practice practice. After 4 failed attempts, it v
exhilirating to finally read the words, "we are PLEASED to announce you PASSED!" I will definitely recomme
your program. God Bless
- Dr. Vessenia Castro-Cahallero, Board Certified Pediatrician

I believe I broke the record taking this test 10 times!!!! I finally passed on the 10th... I appreciate sincerely all your help, I have cried cried all day today, after too many years and thousands of dollars spent, finally this is in the past now. Thank you so much.

- Dr. Pablo Chagoya		

I PASSED finally!!!!!!!!!! So relieved and it's all because of you!! I would not have done it without the live courses... Thank you Ashish!!! You are the best!!

Frannie

Your devoted PBR fan :)

- Dr. Frances Liu, Board-Certified Pediatrician who increased her score by 18 points after failing 3 times

Definitely helped to get a better understanding of the "board game" that Ashish mentions. I'm sure I've fallen prey to those traps in the past.

Also, knowing the types of questions and the algorithm to figuring out how to spend my time answering the questions-- never would have thought about the Hybrid approach to just reading the last line of the vignette for "this/these" questions.

Really didn't know that I shouldn't be spending time reading through the whole vignette... or doing the "top to bottom" approach!

Overall it was great and I really appreciate you taking the time and effort putting this together and making sure that we can succeed our first time around.

Helped immensely with reading/understanding the "English" of the questions - I actually would've gotten one example question wrong in the past had I not used the AaCNI mnemonic

I had very little time to prepare for the boards... The core study guide helped me focus on topics that were high yield on the exam. In addition, the strategies taught by Ashish were very helpful and is what I believe helped me PASS. I would highly recommend the PBR for anyone needed to review in a short period of time. It is worth every penny!

- Dr. Darlene Melk, Board Certified Pediatrician

Ashish, this is Russ Zwiener... The weight of the world has been lifted! I have PASSED the 2018 ABP certifying exam. I improved my score by 42 points and passed by 35. Tears of joy are wonderful. No Thank you could ever be sufficient for all the support and guidance over the past couple of years. Thank you again and please let me know if I could ever help with PBR in any way!!

Board Certified Pediatrician VIP Bundle Member "Deep Dive" call with Ashish **42-Point Increase** 3 Prior failed attempts

The first time, I didn't finish... I landed a 166. The next year I joined PBR and went over the book 3 times. I should've taken off two weeks prior, but only managed one. I earned a 179. Heart breaking. But how could I give up when I only needed one point. So this year I went over the book at least 5 more times. I did the ATL live test-taking strategies training and learned how to process through choosing the most correct answers. I arranged to have at least 3 hrs of deep work everyday and did a chapter a day plus prep questions from that section. Two mos before the exam I did med study practice blocks of 84 questions timed to practice randomized subjects. This time I got a 208... The tears of relief...really I can't describe it as intensely as we felt it. So much time, work, money, defeat I had felt...finally redeemed. The sacrifice my family made, finally we could leave purgatory and move on! ... Thank you PBR.

Dr. Samantha
Board Certified Pediatrician
All Access Pass Member
Live Test-Taking Strategies & Deep Study Course Member
29-Point increase
2 Prior failed attempts

Ashish and Team. Today is the best day ever. I had to do many things to get here. You gave me the tools, and my confidence back. The test taking strategies changed my approach to questions. It was clear, consistent and concise. I approached each question the same way. It took me 10 years to figure out how to take this test. The personalized schedule kept me focused and on task. You helped me overcome my biggest challenge in my career. I passed with a 192. I am finally board certified after 10 years and I now have more options available to me. I can keep my family together. I have conquered my biggest nemesis and it feels great! You are awesome.

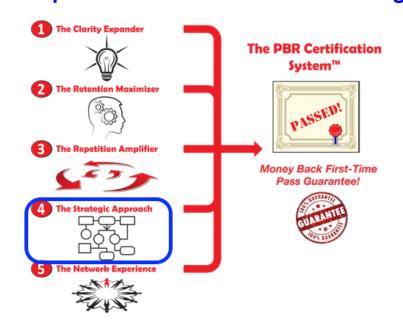
Dr. Cynthia Mondesir
Board Certified Pediatrician
All Access Pass Member
Live Test-Taking Strategies & Deep Study Course Member
"Deep Dive" call with Ashish
26-Point Increase
6 Prior attempts

^{*} All testimonials are by real people, and may not reflect the typical purchaser's experience, and are not intended to represent or guarantee that anyone will achieve the same or similar results.

The time that you spend learning how to use test-taking strategies to increase your scores will be the HIGHEST yield time of your board prep. The overall time investment is as little as 8-16 hours, but the skills you learn will be used on EVERY single question that you come across. Is there a single chapter in this book that can guarantee you the same benefit?

THE ANSWER IS "NO!"

① Signup for Your FREE Test-Taking Strategy Session Now www.pediatricsboardreview.com/strategy



② Use the ONLINE Test-Taking Strategies Course

Go through the online course, do independent work, increase your skill, and reach a plateau.

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/strategy

③ Attend the LIVE Test-Taking Strategies & Deep Study Course

Come to the LIVE course, get mentored, maximize your test-taking strategy skills, BREAK THROUGH your plateau, and learn Deep Study techniques to maximize your "book time" too.

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/live-tts

DID YOU KNOW THAT I FAILED THE BOARDS?



I took the ABP initial certification exam the year that I graduated from residency. I used multiple study guides to prepare. Because there was so much information in front of me (print and video), I only got through everything once.

I felt okay going into the exam. I thought, "I've been through the MCAT, three USMLE exams and an Internal Medicine board exam. I did fine in residency, and I

studied really hard for two months. I'm sure I'll be fine."

Coming out of that exam room on test-day, I felt nauseous. I realized that I might have just failed my first medical board exam, ever! I was upset with myself for getting so scattered with all of those different study materials, but I was also annoyed because I still couldn't think of a single resource that I could use as a primary study guide the next time around.

I went home and made notes about **how I would study differently** if I had failed. What topics would I concentrate on? What topics just don't seem to be "testable"? What information is a waste of time to study?

When the results finally came, I failed. I estimate that I failed by seven to nine questions. I made key strategy changes based on my previous experience. I studied for hundreds of hours while still working a full-time job. I focused on efficiency, solid mnemonics for memorization and I stopped trying to learn "all of pediatrics."

You never feel "great" coming out of a board exam, but the second time around I felt like I had a fighting chance. My score increased by 160 points on the old passing scale, and I estimated a pass by about 37–39 questions! Pretty soon, I even received another kind of letter from the ABP. The American Board of Pediatrics asked ME to write questions for the THEM!!!

I was really just happy to pass. Failing the first time had cost me extra time, money, and energy that I would have preferred to spend with my loved ones.

Prior to creating the Pediatrics Board Review experience, I was ashamed that I had failed. Now, I've taken a horrible experience, and I've created something that is helping residents and pediatrician across the country. I've also realized that failing the boards did not mean that I was a bad pediatrician. Nor did passing by such a wide margin mean that I am a great pediatrician.

I'M JUST AN AVERAGE PERSON WHO DID EXTREMELY WELL ON THE EXAM... AND THEN TOOK MY NOTES AND SYSTEMS AND TURNED THEM INTO THE PBR. No matter who you are, I know that you can pass your exam too. That's why PBR comes with a 100% Money-Back First-Time Pass Guarantee.

It's the easiest, most EFFICIENT, and only integrated board review SYSTEM to help you PASS the pediatric boards. So, rest assured that by joining the PBR family, you're already on the right track to success.



JUST FOLLOW THE EFFICIENCY BLUEPRINT!

THE PBR EFFICIENCY BLUEPRINT

The pediatric initial certification exam has **one of the highest failure rates of any medical board exam**. I URGE you to follow just a few of my simple but CRITICAL recommendations as you go through your board review experience. **ESPECIALLY #1**!

- PLEASE STICK TO ONE PRIMARY STUDY GUIDE the PBR! Spreading yourself too thin by reviewing multiple resources is the <u>BIGGEST MISTAKE</u> you can make. I've gone through thousands of emails, interviews and surveys. It's clear that this one, single recommendation that will increase your chances of board success more than anything else I can say.
 - This is a **key similarity amongst pediatricians who failed** the boards but then went on to pass using the PBR system. So please **do not spend your time going through other books**, **video courses or expensive live board review courses**. **Go through the PBR books** (Core Study Guide + Q&A Book) **and the PBR companion products** (videos, MP3s, digital picture atlas, webinars) exclusively and give yourself a seamless, multimodal approach.
- 2. Approach your PBR material by first simply SEEING all of the PBR content in the Core Study Guide and Q&A Book. Spend about 60–90 seconds per page to simply SEE everything that you will need to learn so that you have an idea about the type of knowledge you'll need to acquire in order to pass this exam. This should take you a full day. DO NOT spend time writing notes of any kind during this process. Do NOT treat the Q&A Book like other guestions. This is CORE content.

During your first official read, leave no stone unturned. Crosscheck anything that confuses you. Create mnemonics, notes and drawings in the margins so that you understand EVERYTHING. Make sure that you will NEVER have to go outside of the PBR for additional knowledge or clarifications again. If you get stuck on a concept, reach out to your peers in the PBR Community (www.pbrlinks.com/community)! If you think you've found an error, notify us through our special error submission link (www.pediatricsboardreview.com/error). This will help you maintain your PACE and promote EFFICIENCY! When crosschecking, ONLY go outside of PBR briefly for possible errors or confusion. That's it! Do NOT go down the black hole of GOOGLE! If after 5 minutes you're still stuck, submit your question through the ASK THE EXPERT portal for that chapter and move on!

Your second time should be MUCH faster if you are using my highlighter system. Do NOT let your curiosity of non-PBR topics distract you. As you break up your studying time with questions, you WILL want to look up new topics and crosscheck facts between the PBR and PREP®. DO NOT DO IT! It's a guaranteed waste of precious time that could be spent on the HIGHEST YIELD resources that you will have at your disposal to pass the board exam: PBR's.

Your third, fourth and fifth times through the PBR content should strictly focus on adding more information into your long-term memory through <u>repetition</u>, through the use of mnemonics, and through the use of **MULTIMODAL studying**. Use audio, video, webinars, study buddy sessions, etc. Just use something to mix things up because it's been **proven to increase learning**! Use the audio course everywhere, and use the video course in a later "recapture" round (more on this in the members' area).

Again, you must resist that urge to look up extraneous information and you must **focus on QUALITY study time**. Ensure that your reading is focused on LEARNING and REMEMBERING the concepts. Do not simply read for the sake of reading, and do not study when you're exhausted or irritable.

Your primary goal is to <u>pass the exam</u>. As long as you KNOW everything from the Core Study Guide + Q&A Book, you will have enough information in your brain to easily pass as long as you also have good test-taking strategy. However, if you try to learn "all of pediatrics" you will get

overwhelmed and probably **fail the exam**. Map out the right number of hours based on your risk profile (more on this coming up) and hold yourself accountable.

- 3. Use PBR's Q&A book as additional, new CORE material. Also use it to get familiar with very high-yield topics and questions. The format is short and to the point without too much extra information. The questions will help you understand what types of key findings you need to identify on your practice questions and on your exam. Please remember that the Q&A book is considered CORE CONTENT. You need to KNOW IT COLD! Do NOT treat the PBR questions like PREP® questions.
- 4. Go through at least 1000 practice questions. Don't go through them all at once (much more on this in the schedule outlines below). As you go through the questions, work on your timing. If you can average about 1 minute and 15 seconds per question, you will be fine for the boards. Do not try to understand why every single incorrect answer is wrong. Just focus on the correct answer, and if your answer is wrong, figure out WHY it's wrong. Skip explanations about all of the other answer choices.

When evaluating WHY you answered a question wrong, figure out if it was because of a **CONTENT problem** or if it was due to a **TECHNIQUE problem**. Even if you "think" you're sure, trust me, it could still be a TECHNIQUE problem, and you must get help – www.pediatricsboardreview.com/strategies.

Did you answer a question incorrectly because of a CONTENT issue? Meaning, you had a knowledge deficiency? If so, was the content in the PBR? If the answer is "yes" then you MUST know that information. If the answer is "no" then do NOT worry about it! Do NOT start looking at Nelson's, Harriet Lane, Google, UpToDate, etc. It's a black hole that you must avoid because it will only overwhelm you, and it will keep you from the two main goals of knowing the PBR CONTENT COLD and PRACTICING tons of questions to master your test-taking technique!

Remember, the AAP writes PREP®, the ABP writes the boards. Going through three to four years of PREP® is great, but keep in mind that the resource is great for CME. Any single year of PREP® questions is *not* designed to be a stand-alone study guide for the ABP exam. The questions are EXCELLENT for practicing and mastering your test-taking technique, but your highest-yield information will come from the PBR study guides and systems. If you need MORE practice questions, you can get discounted practice questions by visiting www.pediatricsboardreview.com/tools.

Did you answer a question incorrectly because of a TECHNIQUE issue? Did you add extra information and assumptions to the question or the answers that led you to the wrong answer? Did you spend too much time on a question even though it was clear that you didn't have the knowledge to answer it? **Did the question-writer trick you with a distractor?** Did the question writer trick you with an English question instead of a clinical question? Did you get anxious or nervous under a timed mock exam? **Did you often get stuck between seemingly similar answer choices?** Are you still confused about why the answer you chose is wrong?

Make notes about the kinds of issues you're having and try to figure out solution and strategies to avoid similar pitfalls in the future. If you notice that TECHNIQUES-BASED PROBLEMS creeping in over and over again, or you don't know what I mean by "technique," you need to **seek out help through the PBR Test-Taking Strategies & Coaching course at www.pediatricsboardreview.com/strategies**.

5. <u>EXTREMELY</u> Important Test Day Tips: PLAN to be successful. You will find two links below. The first breaks down the number of questions, time per block, etc. for your exam. The second is a list of excellent PBR articles.

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/examday

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/category/test-day-tips

STUDY SCHEDULE: Resident? First-Time? Failed? MOC? MOCA? WE'VE GOT YOU TAKEN CARE OF!

We have a TON of guidance on how you can schedule your study time. Since PBR is of benefit to pediatricians at all different levels, I've tailored my recommendations accordingly below.

EVERYONE MUST recognize the difference between clinical practice and what the ABP would want you to do on the exam. The exam is filled with answer choices that sound like they would be great options in practice, but unless you know what "the book" says, you will have to simply roll the dice.

For anyone taking the Initial Certification exam, recognize that the pass rates are DRAMATICALLY LOWER than the USMLE Step Exams. In 2023, the first-time pass rate for US and Canadian medical students taking the USMLE Step 1 was approximately 92% while the pass rate for the ABP initial certification exam was only 82%! Our members' pass rate for first-time test takers of the ABP exams is estimated to be > 98%! So, stay focused on PBR!

ARE YOU A RESIDENT? Simply familiarizing yourself with everything in the PBR content before you graduate will dramatically increase your chances of passing the boards.

While on subspecialty rotations, READ and KNOW the associated PBR chapter. While on general inpatient or outpatient rotations, focus on the rest of the book, and take just 15 minutes per day to read the QUICK and high-yield topics about your patients. Pace yourself so that you can get through the material at least once per year. That's it! If you do that, your in-training scores will skyrocket, and you will DESTROY the boards.

ARE YOU TAKING THE INITIAL EXAM FOR THE FIRST TIME? If your PBR risk assessment shows that you are a low-risk test-taker, that likely means you're a first-time test-taker, you're taking the exam immediately after residency, and you have **never come close to failing** a medical board exam (above average board scores). Visit the following PBR article for a detailed study schedule:

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/Schedule

HAVE YOU EVER FAILED A MEDICAL BOARD EXAM (OR COME CLOSE)? If your PBR risk assessment shows that you are at moderate or high risk of failing the boards, you were likely categorized as being "at risk" of failing based on your in-training exam scores, you may have failed a medical board exam (ANY medical board exam) previously, or you generally score below the national average on your board exams. Visit the following PBR article for detailed instructions on how you can avoid failing your pediatric boards:

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/Schedule-Failed

ARE YOU STUDYING FOR MOCA-PEDS? For the "at home," MOCA-Peds questions, the plan is simple. Use the MOCA-PBR Study Guide & Test Companion. Go through our concise summaries of the most current year's Learning Objectives in detail one time. It may only take you a single day! Since MOCA-PBR is setup to be an efficient test companion to help you with your open book exam, keep it open as you do your MOCA-Peds questions. Review your MOCA-PBR study guide once per quarter. That's it!

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/MOCA

<u>ARE YOU STUDYING FOR THE MOC</u>? If you are taking the pediatric recertification exam, then your goal should be to get through the PBR materials at least twice and to do at least 550 practice questions. Did you know that you may have access to **200 FREE ABP questions**. Go through them!

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/MOC

PBR MEMORY AIDS - USING MNEMONICS AND PEGS

<u>MNEMONICS</u>: Mnemonics are memory aids that assist in helping you recall something. They are used throughout this study guide to help you study in a more focused and **EFFICIENT** manner. Not all of them will work for you, but many will. At the time of the exam, you WILL use many of the mnemonics in this book to help you answer questions. If you're lucky, you might even get a smile on your face as you think about me acting like a bit of a fool in some of the videos from the **PBR Online Video Course** (www.pediatricsboardreview.com/videos).

PEGS: Memory "pegs" are typically used to help you remember a list of items. By having 20 pre-memorized pegs that represent the numbers 1–20, you can easily "peg" items to those numbers. For example, in the PEG system outlined in this guide, a CAT symbolizes the number 9 (since cats are said to have "nine lives").

So, if you are trying to memorize a grocery list of 10 items and one of those items is a gallon of milk, then the 9th item could be tied to an image, or a story, about a cat. It could be as simple as visualizing a funky looking BLACK CAT that has white legs drinking from an orange bowl of MILK. The white legs and orange bowl are simply thrown in to add color and imagination. Other strategies would include the use of disproportional size, the use of action, or the use of sound. The crazier the image, or story, the better!

Please note that some of the pegs in this guide will be used in the high-yield mnemonics in this book. Please look through them a few times to see if you can get the hang of it. If you can, then you might even be able to start creating some of your OWN fun and interesting mnemonics. If you cannot, it's okay. Move on since there are only a handful of mnemonics that use one of the pegs listed here. Plus, if I do use a peg, I usually try to remind you of the peg association in the book.

Do you have ideas on how to make the pegs or mnemonics in this book more useful?

Please consider sharing your thoughts in the private, members' only area of the **PBR Community** You can also submit them directly to us for consideration through our errors and clarifications portal:

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/ERROR

TWENTY PEGS

#	USE THIS PEG	DESCRIPTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS OF PEGS
1	TREE TRUNK	Imagine the number 1 looking like a huge, brown tree trunk with limbs full of green foliage sitting at the top of a lush, green hilltop.
2	LIGHT SWITCH	A light switch has 2 positions (ON & OFF). Use a switch OR a bulb for "2".
3	STOOL	Imagine a dark, cherry wood stool with 3 legs.
4	CAR	Cars have FOUR doors and FOUR wheels.
5	GLOVE or HAND	A glove has 5 fingers. Consider making Michael Jackson's shiny glove your peg for the number FIVE.
6	GUN	Another name for a gun is a 6-shooter (since guns used to only hold 6 bullets). GUNS also kill people and put them "6 feet under" the ground.
7	DICE or CARDS	Lucky number 7! Think Vegas, think craps, think gambling with dice or cards!
8	ICE SKATE	Ice skaters are known for performing a move called the figure 8. Eight also rhymes with skate.
9	CAT	Ever heard of the phrase, "Cats have nine lives"?
10	BOWLING BALL or BOWLING PINS	The goal of bowling is to knock down 10 pins.
11	AMERICAN FOOTBALL or GOAL POST	In American football, a field goal occurs when a football is kicked through two, white, vertical uprights (the goal post). A goal post looks like the number 11.
12	EGGS	Eggs usually come in a carton that contains a dozen (12) eggs.
13	HOCKEY MASK	Unlucky number 13 and the unlucky day/movie <i>Friday the 13th</i> . The main character in the movie <i>Friday the 13th</i> is Jason, a hockey-mask-wearing killer.
14	ROSE or CHOCOLATE HEART	February 14 th is Valentine's Day! So, think of a long-stemmed, red ROSE or perhaps a big CHOCOLATE HEART.
15	PAYCHECK	You get to give the IRS a huge chunk of your PAYCHECK every single year on TAX-DAY! APRIL 15 th . Welcome to healthcare. ☺
16	DRIVER'S LICENSE	Age at which you get a driver's license. Other pegs to consider include CANDLES, CANDY, or a BIRTHDAY CAKE for "Sweet SIXTEEN."
17	MAGAZINE	There is a teen magazine called "SEVENTEEN."
18	VOTING BOOTH	Age when you become a legal adult in the U.S. and are allowed to VOTE.
19	KNIGHTING	Imagine a "KNIGHTING" ceremony (sounds like 19) or a KNIGHT.
20	CIGARETTES	A pack of CIGARETTES has 20 cigarettes in it.

There are TONS of mnemonics throughout PBR. Many will seem brilliant. Others may not work for you at all. If that happens, please CREATE YOUR OWN. It's initially intimidating but gets much easier with time.

Click here to read PBR's article on mnemonics: www.pbrlinks.com/MNEMONICS

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE PBR FORMAT

- * **GRAY** HIGHLIGHTING: In the PBR hardcopy resources, gray highlighting is used over a word, phrase or chapter title to feature content that you **MUST KNOW!** These are very high-yield topics and are likely to be seen on the exam as an answer choice. PBR's **online** books may have this content in **red text** or yellow highlighting.
- * **DOUBLE TAKE**: You will LOVE THIS! A "DOUBLE TAKE" alert accompanies topics that are in the book multiple times. Medicine ties together. Ordinarily, that results in flipping back and forth between chapters. Double Take is a PBR-specific system used to **increase efficiency** by reducing the flipping back and forth between related (or similar) topics. Most of these topics tend to be very high yield.
- * NAME ALERTS: Many disease names sound very similar (e.g., Condyloma Lata versus Condyloma Acuminata, or Shwachman-Diamond Syndrome versus Diamond-Blackfan Anemia). NAME ALERTS serve as reminders to look for these subtle differences.
- * **ABBREVIATIONS**: Some disorders are discussed using their abbreviations while others are discussed with their proper names. When searching for a topic online you should do a search for both. If you encounter an unfamiliar acronym, try this tool: www.AcronymFinder.com
- * MNEMONICS: If you're much smarter than me, you don't need these. If you have an average memory, like me, you MUST learn to take advantage of memory aids. They can dramatically increase your efficiency as you journey to retain thousands of bits of information. The PBR mnemonics may or may not work for you, but many of them should serve as excellent examples of the various types of memory aids you can begin to create. As a tip, always use as much action, color, exaggeration and "crazy" as possible.
- * <u>PEARLS</u>: These are bits of information that help tie key concepts together for you. Members LOVE THEM! Here's a PEARL for you. © There are only a finite number of ways that the ABP can test you on a disease process. Some PEARLS will show you how information could be presented on the exam.

PBR ERRORS

Are there errors in the PBR? Of course there are! But I also update the PBR every year with new recommendations and guidelines. I'm able to do this because of YOUR support. If you notice ANY error in the PBR materials (e.g., incorrect spelling, grammar, incomplete sentence, contradictory information, etc.), PLEASE visit the link below to submit the potential error OR visit the corresponding ASK THE EXPERT portal and submit the potential error there.

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/ERROR

Please DO NOT email individual errors or clarification requests to me. It's WAY too overwhelming. If you have MULTIPLE possible errors, send us a Word document. I LOVE the members who do that!!

Also, because it's impossible for me to respond to every submission individually, but we do address almost every submission in our ASK THE EXPERT webinars. Also, I will likely release the annual **PBR CONTENT & CLARIFICATION GUIDE** to all active PBR members (FREE) 1-2 weeks before the exam. While this is not a "guaranteed" service, it's something I've done every single year since 2011. Your submissions drive this process and allow me to provide you with updated pediatric knowledge year after year so that you can ace your boards.

PBR TOPIC CLARIFICATION OR CONFUSION

If you are struggling with a concept, get help from the members' only area in our **PBR Community or the ASK THE EXPERT portals!** The community is EXTREMELY active (especially starting around July of every year). If you find a concept explained poorly and think the PBR needs a revision, feel free to use the error portal to bring it to my attention:

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/ERROR

PBR IMAGE LINKS

The image links in the PBR lead to PHENOMENAL images throughout the web! BUT these images are located on NON-PBR websites. Some websites go out of business. When this happens, we simply need to replace the image. Typically, no more than 2% of the links within PBR are "bad." We have an awesome system that allows us to change the link on our end, but we need your help when a link "dies." **Simply submit any "bad link" through the portal below and we'll take care of it!**

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/BADLINK

PBR & AVSAR – THE NON-PROFIT CONNECTION

WHAT IS AVSAR? I started a non-profit organization, named AVSAR Inc., at the age of 27 to help support existing non-profit organizations that were already doing great work in slum areas.

After medical school, I spent one year volunteering in the slums of Mumbai. The need for help was profound and conditions were shocking. Six-year-old children worked as child laborers, using their small, agile fingers to make beautifully detailed handiwork. Others spent their days looking for recyclables in garbage dumps.

I bonded with these children. I then created a non-profit organization under the U.S. IRS, called AVSAR. We recruited volunteers from around the world (college students, dentists, doctors, MBA students) to "help where the help was needed." My personal success stories included the creation of an efficient Western-style clinic for child laborers and the establishment of an adolescent sex-education curriculum.

AVSAR helped thousands of people, but the core volunteer program was shut down in my last year of residency due to lack of funding and my 80-hour workweeks. Even so, the projects and systems created by volunteers live on and **continue** to help thousands more every year.

In order to re-launch AVSAR, we needed funding. Through Pediatrics Board Review Inc. (a private company) I donated over \$50,000 to AVSAR before ever paying myself a penny.

It's because of my passion for helping people that I created AVSAR, and the passion drives me to help pediatricians through the PBR **EXPERIENCE**.

I hope that you're able to use the many resources within the PBR *Certification System* and the PBR community to EFFICIENTLY study and pass your exam. I very much look forward to being a part of your success. Now let's get started!



PRODUCT REGISTRATION

As mentioned on the PBR site, our first-time pass guarantee applies to anyone taking an ABP initial or recertification exam for the first time. "Money Back" requests may be made within 30 days of the score release date. The original PBR purchase must have been made at least 45 days prior to the exam. Submission of the product registration form is required for the money back pass guarantee and the form must be submitted within 90 days of your purchase and before you take the exam. For complete details, please visit:

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/guarantee

Visit the following link to register your product(s):

www.pediatricsboardreview.com/register

If you made an official purchase that was initiated through the PBR website but resulted in your purchase being processed through Amazon.com, or another authorized distributor of PBR resources, please contact us through www.pediatricsboardreview.com/contact so that you can send us a copy of your receipt.

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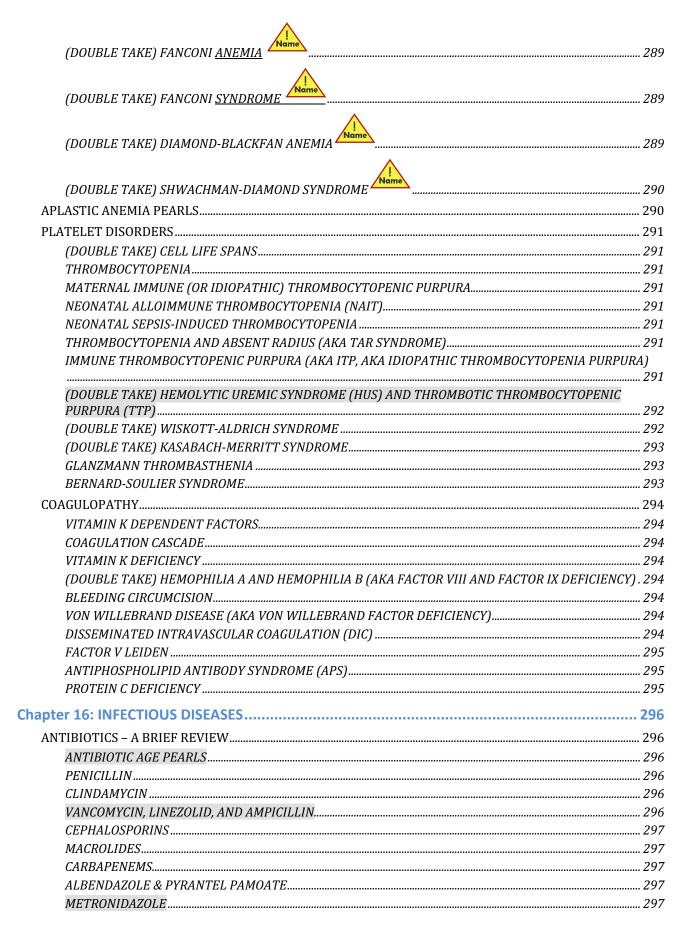
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Ashish & Team PBR

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