

How to Use Practice Questions

- Early in your study, question sets can be directly related to the topic that you are reviewing. Paper and pencil questions are fine. Use them to test the knowledge you've just been studying. Utilize the explanations; learn from them.
- Early in your study, work questions for a set period of time, 30 minutes to an hour. Do not try to do the questions within the time allowed by the NBME. Timing will be your focus during the last month prior to the exam. At the beginning, you're using the questions as a tool for learning.
- Early in your study, occasionally do a block of mixed questions. Touching on topics that you have not reviewed yet will keep you from the temptation of staying on one topic longer than you should. Use these questions to develop a list of concepts you need to review in the future.
- At first your scores may be low. Don't get discouraged. Remember, you're using them as tool for learning. As you keep reviewing and doing more questions, you'll see your scores improve over time.
- Your schedule should gradually evolve into more blocks of mixed questions in 30 minute blocks, then timed hour blocks, then multiple-hour blocks. ***Remember, the exam is 7 one-hour blocks. Train for the event.***