

SOME FINAL WORDS FROM LUKE

Well, here we are. It's been a pretty full on five and one half months, but you've made it to the end of the fellowshipexam.com course. So, here a final couple of words of wisdom for you as the exam looms large...

First and foremost – DON'T PANIC.

This is critical, and key to passing the exam.

You have studied hard, and worked in ED for years. Even despite this there is a good chance you will come across something you don't know in the exam. (I've been practicing emergency medicine for years and I still find I learn something every week!)

BUT you have covered a lot of major topics in detail and learned to answer questions about them. Your aim in the exam is to pass by scoring heavily in as many questions as possible.

So, when it comes to that question you're not sure about, don't panic. Do your best to answer – picture the patient in front of you if you can and write what you would do for them in the emergency department. BUT, don't waste two questions worth of time, and don't stuff up the next question for worrying about the prior one.

Make sure you remember the exam strategies we've discussed through the course:

STAY ON TIME – answering each and every question is key to maximising your mark, and this depends on your time management

ANSWER EVERY QUESTION – see above

WRITE AS SCIENTIFICALLY AS POSSIBLE – say as much as you can with as much brevity as possible. Include doses of drugs and endpoints in your answers when appropriately

ANSWER THE QUESTION ASKED – each question is written about a single major problem in a patient. Make sure you read the stem carefully, and answer the question that is asked in the context of the patient given

Finally, trust yourself. You've done a lot of work in the last 5 and a half months, and I've seen that reflected in VSG entries, Face to Faces and Roadblocks. If you're really stuck on the exam ask yourself "what would I do with this patient in my department?" and you probably won't go too far wrong.

Good luck!

Luke