



“TOUGH STUFF” VIGNETTES

In the pages that follow are 73 “tough stuff” vignettes. As described in the Preface, these have been culled from years of clinical practice experience and teaching Board review. They have also been iteratively reviewed and vetted with our GI fellows at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and our colleagues at Atlanta Gastroenterology Associates and Emory University. In addition, we offer an annual live, in-person *Acing the GI Board Exam* review course where we continuously refine, update, and perfect our vignettes and “Here’s the Point!” learning pearls. We’ve written this book in the style of our courses; the in-person course is a good opportunity to reinforce the vignettes you’ll read here and in the other *Acing* volumes. You can also access additional questions in a different multiple-choice format online in the *Acing the GI Board Exam* question bank (www.acingboardexams.com).

As you go through these vignettes, keep the following points in mind:

- These are generally difficult. That is by design. You may still know the answers to many of these vignettes—a sign that you are well prepared for the exam. But if you can’t get them all right, that’s fine too. That’s the whole point of this book—to ensure that you are gaining incremental information, not just reviewing stuff you already know. Keep in mind, however, that for every tough question that’s in this book, there are a bunch of gimmies that don’t appear in this book. The entire Board exam won’t be full of “tough stuff” questions. Don’t get too demoralized if you can’t correctly answer all of these questions. Rest assured that you already know most of the gimmies just by paying attention and learning during your clinical experiences.
- These are in completely random order—there’s no explicit rhyme or reason. See the Preface for our rationale of using a random order.