



# Medical School at a Glance

Rachel K. Thomas

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# Medical School at a Glance

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# Preface



**A**n alternative title to this book could be: ‘An insider’s guide to what I wished I knew before starting medical school’. It aims to provide you with tips so that you gain a running start to your medical school training. Some areas of knowledge are already ‘assumed’ during your medical course. These assumptions, for example about the course itself, interaction with both patients and medical professionals, and support progressing through medical school, can be assumed incorrectly. As a result, you have to learn some aspects, the time-consuming ‘hard way’ – by trial and error! Your time will already be a premium commodity, so minimising, or eliminating, time spent having to wonder about background issues will free up more time for you to concentrate on your studies and clinical activities. This book provides an insider’s view of helpful information to build a solid basic foundation for

your learning, which you can then build on throughout your medical studies and career.

This book does not aim to give in-depth coverage of specific areas, as there are many resources including other *At a Glance* titles, and the General Medical Council’s *Outcomes for Graduates* (originally *Tomorrow’s Doctors*) and *Good Medical Practice* for this. There are also many useful books by writers such as Atul Gawande and Ben Goldacre that can offer broader perspectives on medicine. The idea of this book is to help give you confidence, and to help you realise that you already most likely in command of some assumed basics underlying medical school.

*Rachel Thomas*

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