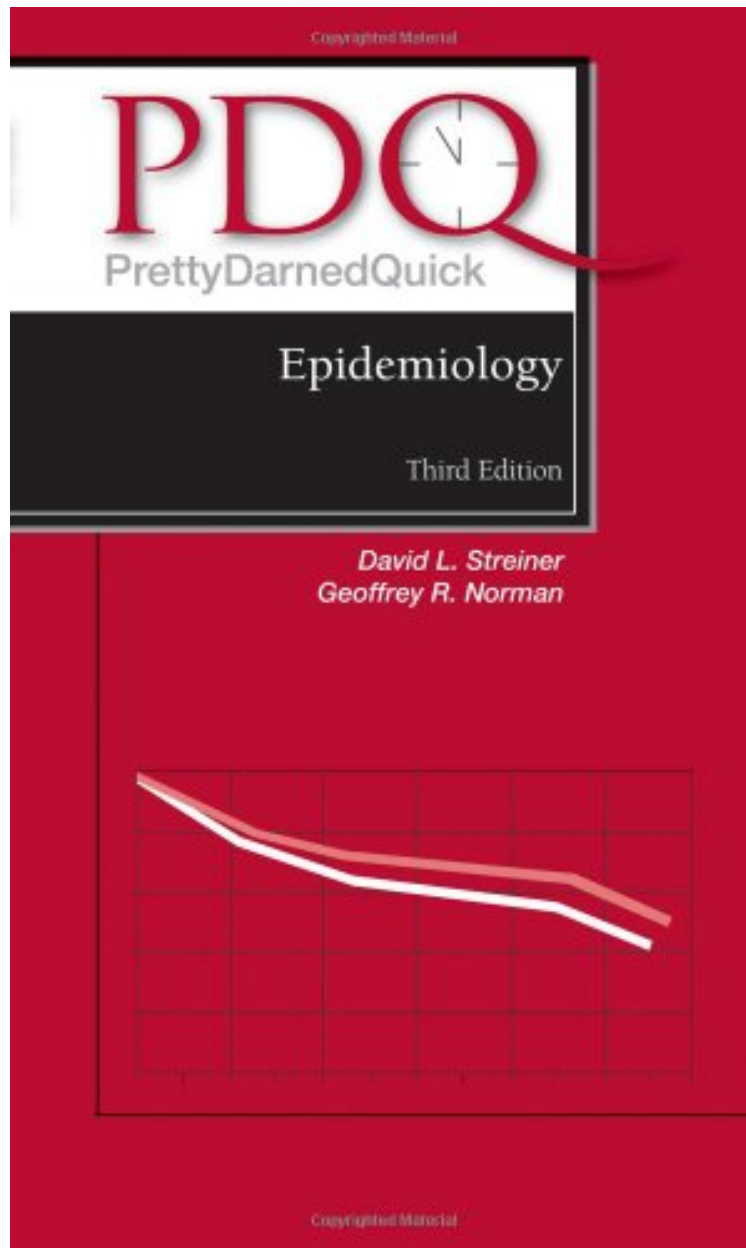


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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Essential ResourceBy Maureen T. HannleyDuring my clinical

research career I have regularly been responsible for teaching residents and medical students the elements of clinical research. Most have no previous experience with research methods or epidemiology and so I find the PDQ Epidemiology and PDQ Statistics books invaluable in those seminars. The text is succinct but the subject matter is covered in very good detail for this purpose, covering the essentials in an approachable, well-illustrated way. It is droll in some commentary and case illustrations but this is considered a strength by the novice reader. Major topic areas (e.g. assessing causation; measurement) are accompanied by unique guides to critical review of research articles: the "Convolutional Reasoning or Anti-intellectual Pomposity" or CRAP Detectors, an effective device that puts the material to work in judging the validity of research. The book is clearly written, uses clear and appropriately placed figures and is well referenced. There are plenty of other epidemiology and clinical research methodology books available, but PDQ has shown itself to be the very best "intro" or overview book for students who are looking for a reliable resource, not a career. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Excellent primer on epidemiology By Abacus In four short chapters, the authors cover a lot of ground, including: research methodology, measurement, and causation. The third chapter covering measurement is especially rich in imparting knowledge. It explains clearly many concepts such as sensitivity, specificity, and Bayes' theorem. The authors do an excellent job of explaining complex materials such as the ROC curves. This latter concept is challenging, and they make it pretty accessible. One of the reviewers thought this was a poor guide to epidemiology because it did not cover enough technical ground. I'd argue that all this book is intended to do is give you a quick overview of the field. After all, that's what the PDQ series is all about. In this perspective, the authors have done an outstanding job. They even describe some of the underlying logic pretty well. They also do a great job at demonstrating all the traps that laypersons and even scientists fall into when interpreting epidemiological studies. However, to supplement this high-level knowledge you have to study a more extensive textbook on the subject. Other reviewers recommend several good ones. And, you also got to acquire an excellent foundation in statistics. In this regard, I recommend three books you could study in sequential orders. The first one that serves as a good refresher is *Forgotten Statistics*. The second one that covers extensively all the statistics related to biostatistics and epidemiology is *Intuitive Biostatistics*. And the last one is *Nonparametric Statistics: An Introduction (Quantitative Applications in the Social Sciences)*. With this acquired statistical background, you will be properly equipped to move forward in your studies in epidemiology or biostatistics. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Book Good - Transition to Kindle for iPad Horrible By Cat The book material is good. However, the transition from textbook Kindle for iPad is horrible. You cannot read any of the charts and the text is unreadable, hard to follow in some parts. My husband even asked if I paid for the book or if it was free because it's so unreadable in some parts. It makes me afraid to purchase textbooks for my iPad in the future.

PDQ Epidemiology is an exceptionally clear and highly irreverent review of the important concepts of medical statistics and their impact on public health policy. As the authors note in their preface: "...the role of Epidemiology these days fills the gaping chasm between the scientific wisdom of the wet laboratory and the clinical wisdom of the ward." By translating the terminology of epidemiology into easy to understand language, the common sense of the methods emerges and makes sense to students. Featuring unique examples, titled Convolutional Reasoning or Anti-intellectual Pomposity Detectors (CRAP Detectors), the text helps the reader identify studies with basic flaws in design or research.

About the Author David L. Streiner, PhD, C. Psych Professor of Clinical Epidemiology, and Biostatistics and of Psychiatry, McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences, Hamilton, Ontario CANADA. Geoffrey R. Norman, PhD Professor of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences, Hamilton, Ontario CANADA.