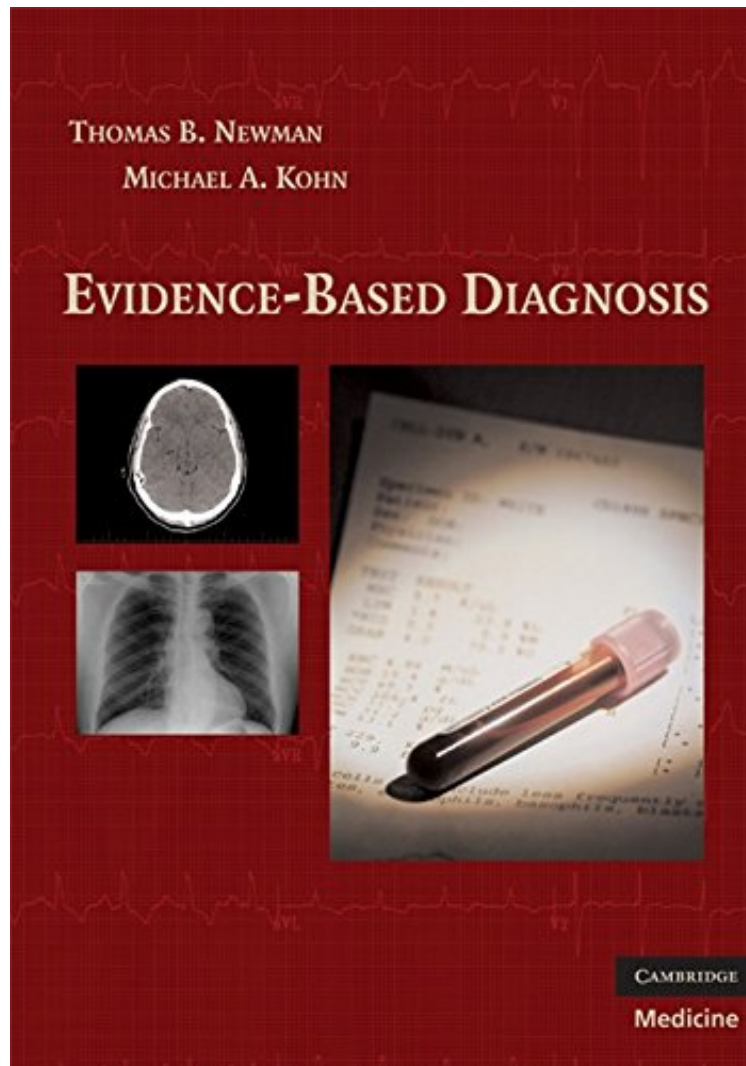


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## Evidence-Based Diagnosis (Cambridge Medicine (Paperback))

*Thomas B. Newman, Michael A. Kohn*  
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**Thomas B. Newman, Michael A. Kohn : Evidence-Based Diagnosis (Cambridge Medicine (Paperback))** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Evidence-Based Diagnosis (Cambridge Medicine (Paperback)):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Textbook By J Slaughter This book gives a thorough overview of Evidence-Based Diagnosis. The authors present the covered topics with real-life examples from studies and have a talent for breaking down important concepts into easy to understand examples. Will be a valuable text for medical students, residents, fellows, and attending physicians/practitioners that want to improve their skills in interpreting the available evidence and applying it to patient care. I highly recommend it. 4 of 4 people found the

following review helpful. Sophisticated concepts become comprehensible. By Sydney R. Sewall. Epidemiology texts have a way of being totally confusing until the reader has an "ah hah" moment -- and the meaning of a concept sinks in. Not so with this book -- the authors seem to have empathy for the average reader, and are able to provide the necessary "revelation" through the clarity of their writing and their use of examples. In an early chapter, for example, the authors are able to lead the reader down a logical path towards a sophisticated understanding of relatively easy terms like "sensitivity" and "specificity." Not impressed? Their subsequent explication of "likelihood ratios" and the relationship between LR's and ROC curves is, I believe, uniquely successful in making elegant concepts comprehensible. For clinicians who would like to be guided by "evidence" and not blindly follow existing recommendations, this text explicates the complex vocabulary of EBM. Imagine finding that the methods sections of articles become interesting!

13 of 3 people found the following review helpful. All clinical researchers need it. By Bonnie Camp. This book should be on every clinical researcher's bookshelf. By the time I reached page 40 of the library copy, I knew I had to have my old to underline, make notes and insert flags. Already I had found one of the clearest explanations of problems with assessing agreement that elude so many researchers. What followed were more clear, easy-to-follow explanations of many complicated, difficult-to-understand issues such as the meaning and use of p-values and confidence intervals. There is even a section on how to construct clinical decision rules. Within a week of reading this book, I found occasion to refer putative authors to it for the only detailed explanation I had seen of a statistical procedure (Bland-Altman plots) they had performed but did not understand how to use. Other occasions for use arise every day.

Evidence-Based Diagnosis is a textbook about diagnostic, screening, and prognostic tests in clinical medicine. The authors' approach is based on many years of experience teaching physicians in a clinical research training program. Although requiring only a minimum of mathematics knowledge, the quantitative discussions in this book are deeper and more rigorous than in most introductory texts. The book includes numerous worked examples and 60 problems (with answers) based on real clinical situations and journal articles. The book will be helpful and accessible to anyone seeking to select, develop, or market medical tests. Topics covered include: the diagnostic process, test reliability and accuracy, likelihood ratios, and ROC curves, testing and treatment thresholds, critical appraisal of studies of diagnostic, screening and prognostic tests, test independence and methods of combining tests, quantifying treatment benefits using randomized trials and observational studies, Bayesian interpretation of P values and confidence intervals and challenges for evidence-based diagnosis and evidence-based medicine.

"The authors apply years of experience in both the clinic and classroom to address a broad clinical audience. The book is geared toward residents, fellows, and junior faculty, although students could make use of it early in their evidence-based medicine training... Topics covered range from common terms in evidence-based medicine -- sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictive values -- to those less thoroughly addressed by some resources in the field, such as measures of reliability, likelihood ratios, and propensity scores. The authors provide many illustrative, clinically relevant examples and sample problems, along with a detailed answer key... The format will appeal most strongly to readers interested in the statistical underpinnings of evidence-based diagnosis." Doody's Service

"The book has an appealing pedagogical touch and shows that the authors have a long experience as teachers. This is reflected in the selection of applications, case studies and the problems adapted for self-studies, with solutions supplied at the end of the book." European Journal of Public Health

"This excellent new textbook thoroughly explains all aspects of a reasoned approach to diagnostic decision making... Evidence-Based Diagnosis should now become the definitive text for this corner of the evidence-based medicine library. It teaches the skills necessary to adopt a thoroughly reasoned diagnostic approach, and although aimed at academicians, it is written so that it can and should be used by a broader audience of trainees and clinicians." Michael J. Steiner, Academic Pediatrics 2010; 10(1):75

"This is a book on diagnostic testing aimed at an audience of clinicians, with those of an academic interest in focus, but it should also be of great value for anyone with an interest of practical applications of evidence-based medicine... The book has an appealing pedagogical touch and shows that the authors have a long experience as teachers... For those with basic knowledge of statistics, this is an excellent follow-up and in-depth continuation into applications on diagnostic tests and treatment effect analysis." Lennart Bodin, European Journal of Public Health 2009;20(1):120

"The amazing part is that the authors explain complex concepts with minimal math, to avoid frustrating the novice clinician... For those with a basic level of knowledge, this is an excellent resource to enhance and expand your understanding of diagnostic testing and its applications in trials." Abhinav Chandra, Academic Emergency Medicine 2010;17(6):e51

About the Author: Thomas B. Newman, currently Chief of the Division of Clinical Epidemiology and Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Pediatrics at the University of California, San Francisco, previously served as Associate Director of the UCSF/Stanford Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program and Associate Professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine at UCSF. He is a co-author of *Designing Clinical Research* and a currently practicing pediatrician. Michael A. Kohn is Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco, where he teaches clinical epidemiology and evidence-based medicine. He is also an emergency

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