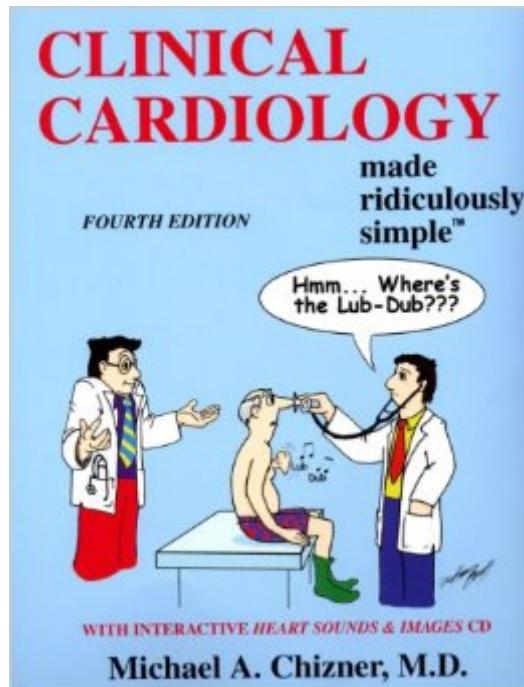


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# Clinical Cardiology Made Ridiculously Simple (Edition 4) (Medmaster Ridiculously Simple)



## **Synopsis**

Completely revised and updated, this best selling book is a clear, concise, highly practical and enjoyable overview of all of clinically relevant cardiology. History, physical, ECG (ECG interpretation taught in just 40 pages), radiology, noninvasive and invasive diagnostic tests, and therapy (both pharmacologic and nonpharmacologic). This fourth edition includes an interactive CD-ROM (Win/Mac) with heart sounds, ECG interpretation, chest x-rays, echocardiography, CT and angiographic imaging, and quiz. Numerous new illustrations, cartoons, and images are also included. For medical students, house officers, cardiac fellows, practicing physicians, nurses, and other health care professionals involved in cardiac patient care.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

First of all, please understand that I NEVER review anything online so for me to actually take the time to critique a book should already speak volumes and I am sorry for my lengthy review but this book deserves such praise. I acquired my first copy of Clinical Cardiology Made Ridiculously Simple as a medical student and I think I used it mostly as a paperweight to hold down the massive collection of class notes I had acquired. How I wish I knew what a gem of a book I had at the time. I recently acquired Dr. Chizner's updated version now as a 3rd year Internal Medicine resident and all I can say is truly is a textbook every medical professional should have. It really is the bible of cardiology. This book is crammed pack of information. Every line I read contains information that I

have been "pimped" on during rounds, or seen on USMLE questions as well as Internal Medicine Board prep questions. But it is not just the information that it contains that makes this book stand out. In today's era of technology we have access to the information at our finger tips with Google, eMedicine, UptoDate, etc. It's the style of writing that I am in awe of. To me medical textbooks, while very informative, are boring if not painful to read. I always wondered why I could manage to read a 400 page James Patterson or John Grisham book in one day, but I would take me a week to read 20 pages of medical text. It's the style of writing that makes a difference. And that is what this book truly has to offer. It's written in a style that makes learning fun. After working 12-14 hour shifts the last thing I really want to do is read a boring book, and honestly most of the time I don't. But with Dr. Chizner's book, I had no problem completing all 300 and some pages within a few weeks and never once complained about it. In fact, it was a pleasure to read much like my James Patterson or John Grisham books. What I enjoyed most about this book is its emphasis on the bedside evaluation of the cardiac patient. Sadly, rounds in the hospital are not done at the bedside anymore and the art of learning how to diagnose cardiac pathology thru exam is being lost to high tech and expensive tests. As a new physician, I can't tell you the joy and excitement you feel when you can walk in a patient's room take your history and perform your physical exam and know EXACTLY what the patient has. It's incredible. It's what makes medicine fun. However, many of today's clinicians are unable to do that. They may hear a murmur, but can't tell you the type, severity, or show you the associated signs to look for. So it's hard as a physician in training to learn from them how to recognize and identify these things. Which is why I LOVE the CD that accompanies this book. It's like having a master clinician at your finger tips walking you through the heart sounds. Dr. Chizner himself reproduces the heart sounds phonetically so the listener can learn to identify the pattern of the sounds. He then includes actual heart sounds so the listener can practice listening what he just learned. I still repeat Dr. Chizner's phonetic descriptions while at bedside listening to the heart and because of him I can identify the murmurs easily, recognize abnormal S1, S2 heart sounds and know the difference between normal variants of heart sounds versus pathologic ones. Where as before all I could do was tell you there is a murmur and whether it was systolic or diastolic. Also, what makes the CD especially valuable are the many opportunities to practice skills learned from reading the book, with multiple examples of EKG tracings, clinical scenarios, quizzes, and chest x-rays. The CD even provides tutorial and introduction to echos. This is especially useful because there are no books or websites which offer a readable and concise explanation of basic echocardiography; usually one must wade through advanced level echocardiography texts designed for the subspecialist which are impossible to understand. Overall, this textbook is masterfully written

and a thoroughly enjoyable read. It is an essential book to all in the medical profession no matter what level of training. I am sure I will continue to use it as a reference during my training as well as my career as a physician. I am already a better clinician because of this book and for that I am forever grateful to Dr. Chizner.

I was recently on a committee preparing an ACC report on textbooks for young or new Cardiology practitioners, and older autodidacts brushing up on the latest science for a career change or advance. As a technical editor and volunteer at preptorial dot org, I prepare the exam questions both for their free test banks, and the actual professional exams for credentialing and CME's/ CPE's. The standards we used were completeness, readability, level, relevance to exams, digital/web resources and price/value. Out of 22 texts and books evaluated, 4 got 10 stars (the equivalent of 's 5 stars):--Chizner:Â Clinical Cardiology Made Ridiculously Simple (Edition 4) (Medmaster Ridiculously Simple)--Topol:Â The Topol Solution: Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine, Third Edition with DVD, Plus Integrated Content Website (Topol, Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine)--Chatterjee:Â Cardiology: An Illustrated Textbook (2 Volume set)--Holler:Â Cardiology EssentialsFirst, stats:Chizner: \$20, 2014, 365 pages, Not an Illustrated textTopol: \$240 (but \$6 US used), 2006, 1,600 pages, IllustratedChatterjee: \$150, 2012, Two volumes (2,600 pages), Highly IllustratedHoller: \$52, 2007, 284 pages, Some illustration, PA oriented, some \$30 usedDifferences and reasons for high ratings: Chizner is the most up to date, has the highest cost/benefit ratio, and is very technical, packed with information and fine print, but not illustrated. This is ideal for the nurse/ PA/ Hospitalist going INTO Card, not just brushing up. Numerous up to date web resources and the authors respond quickly to inquiries. Topol is older and originally very expensive, but also has numerous illustrations, web references that are mostly up to date even now, and is extremely comprehensive with a non intimidating writing style. The real value is that it is now available for under \$10 US from many sources, which is extreme value for content. This still is one of five top picks for Card programs at med schools, and a top pick for library specialty collections at schools and hospitals. Holler is specific for PA's and really gets down to the bedside nitty gritty, as does Chizner--very real world, although far less technical than Chizner. If you're a math wiz, go with Chizner, if you love patient interaction but also are a tech, Holler is outstanding. The best of breed, but relatively expensive, is Chatterjee. This is now the number one choice for Card classes as well as residents in med schools and teaching hospitals. The price/value is the highest for relevance, with thousands of pages and illustrations, and voted the best teaching/writing style of ANY technical textbook in med, not just Card! Even valuable used, you will

rarely find this, with CD, at deep discounts. Choice depends on your objectives. Comprehensive knowledge: Chatterjee/Topol; Deep science: both of those plus Chizner; PA/brush up, test prep: Chizner, with some Holler. PA/Nurse/Hospitalist: Holler specializes and shines here, but Chizner also is outstanding, even though it is a deep read with lots of math and science. Tip: visit the links above and do a comparative "look inside" if you're unsure of level. As far as sales statistics, Chizner wins, but that is generally a price function. If you are doing self study, sorry about this due to price, but Chatterjee is unequalled for both explanatory power and illustrations, with less of a need for an instructor. To make this list, all four have to have state of the art digital resources. Enjoy! Email or comment if you have specific questions, I've got all four right here, along with 20+ others... If you're a Card book author, and your book isn't on this list, it might not have been evaluated in this exercise, email and I'll include it on the panel.

Cardio has always been one of my weaker subjects, primarily because I find it boring and over-complicated in many texts. This book is a pleasure as it does not over-complicate issues and moves slowly. Although at times it feels as if the book is flying through subjects paragraph by paragraph, it often re-iterates itself and defines terms that can be frequently forgotten. The simplistic figures are a nice visual assist in remembering various concepts. I think I can actually retain the JVP wave forms after six years of medical education. Overall, I recommend this book. Keep in mind when reading my review, that cardio is my weak subject, I am not a cardiologist and I suspect it may be over-simplified for those into cardiology. However, I think it would suffice for any clinical rotation at any level (except cardio fellowship).

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