

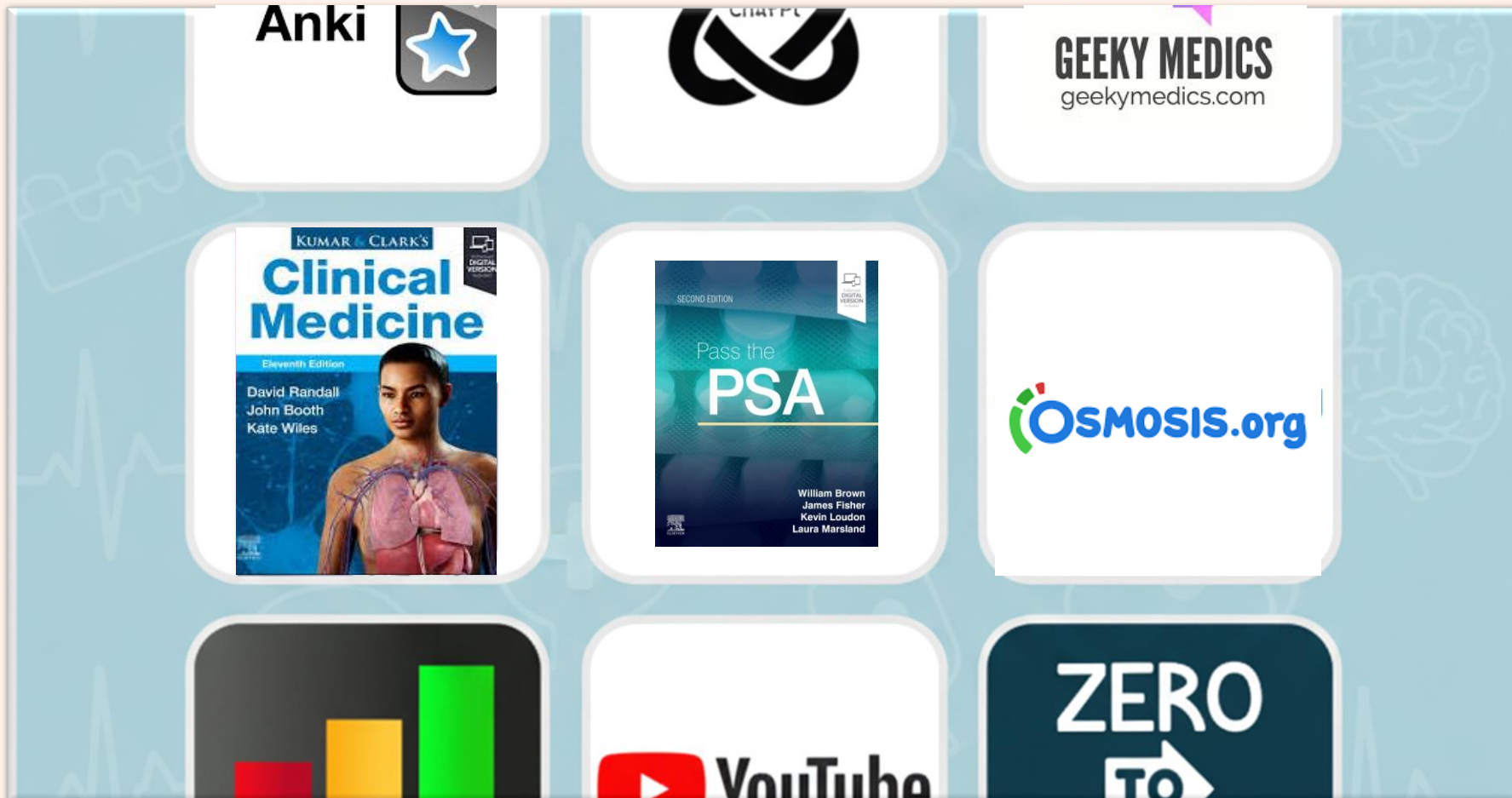
KENT AND MEDWAY MEDICAL SCHOOL

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Examining Learning Resources used by Year 5 Medical Students for UKMLA preparation: Case Study.

Aim of the Study

The aim of this study was to conduct a descriptive case study to examine the learning resources used by Year 5 students at KMMS, in preparation for the United Kingdom Medical Licensing Assessment (UKMLA) Applied Knowledge Test (AKT) and Clinical and Professional Skill Assessment (CPSA).

In order to achieve this, the study:

- investigated the frequency of use
- explored the motivation underlying students' use of these resources
- compared resources funded and provided by the school with resources currently not provided
- examined how much time students engaged with the schools' in-house (KMMS-produced) resources compared to external resources.

Methods

- We created a list of **55 resources** (49 for the AKT exam and 6 for the CPSA) based on recommendations from published literature, medical school provided resources, and from feedback and suggestions collated from KMMS academics and students
- Resources were grouped in **7 different types**:
Books / Question Banks / Flashcards / Learning Platforms / Clinical Decision Support Tools / Artificial Intelligence Tools / Other Resources / CPSA Support tools
- An electronic survey containing **Likert-scale** (Never/Sometimes/Often/All the time), **multiple-choice**, and **open-text questions** was distributed to the Year 5 cohort (**n=64**) after the AKT and before the CPSA.
- Resource use was ranked using **weighted scores** based on frequency.

Results

Frequency of Use for UKMLA AKT preparation (Top 20)

Rank	KMMS provided/purchased	Title	Weighted Score	Resource Type
1	Yes	PassMedicine	121	Question Bank
2	No	Geeky Medics – Question Bank	85	Question Bank
3	No	Self-Curated Personal Study Notes	83	Other Resources
3	No	Geeky Medics – Learning Platform	83	Learning Platform
3	No	Zero to Finals – Learning Platform	83	Learning Platform
6	No	Anki	80	Flashcards
6	No	Medical School Council (MSC) Practice Papers	80	Other Resources
8	No	YouTube and Internet Video Resources	70	Other Resources
9	Yes	Pass the PSA	69	Book
10	No	ChatGPT	68	GenAI
11	Yes	Osmosis	67	Learning Platform
12	No	Zero to Finals - Flashcards	60	Flashcards
13	No	Websites from Health Organisations (e.g. NHS, NICE, General Medical Council, Medical Societies)	59	Other Resources
14	Yes	The ECG Made Easy	58	Book
14	No	Quesmed	58	Question Bank
16	No	Podcasts and Social Media	56	Other Resources
17	No	Geeky Medics - Flashcards	54	Flashcards
18	Yes	Kumar and Clark	52	Book
19	No	BMJ Best Practice	51	Clinical Decision Support Tools
20	Yes	Oxford Handbooks	49	Book

n=31 (48%)

Frequency of Use for Clinical and Professional Skill Assessment (CPSA) preparation

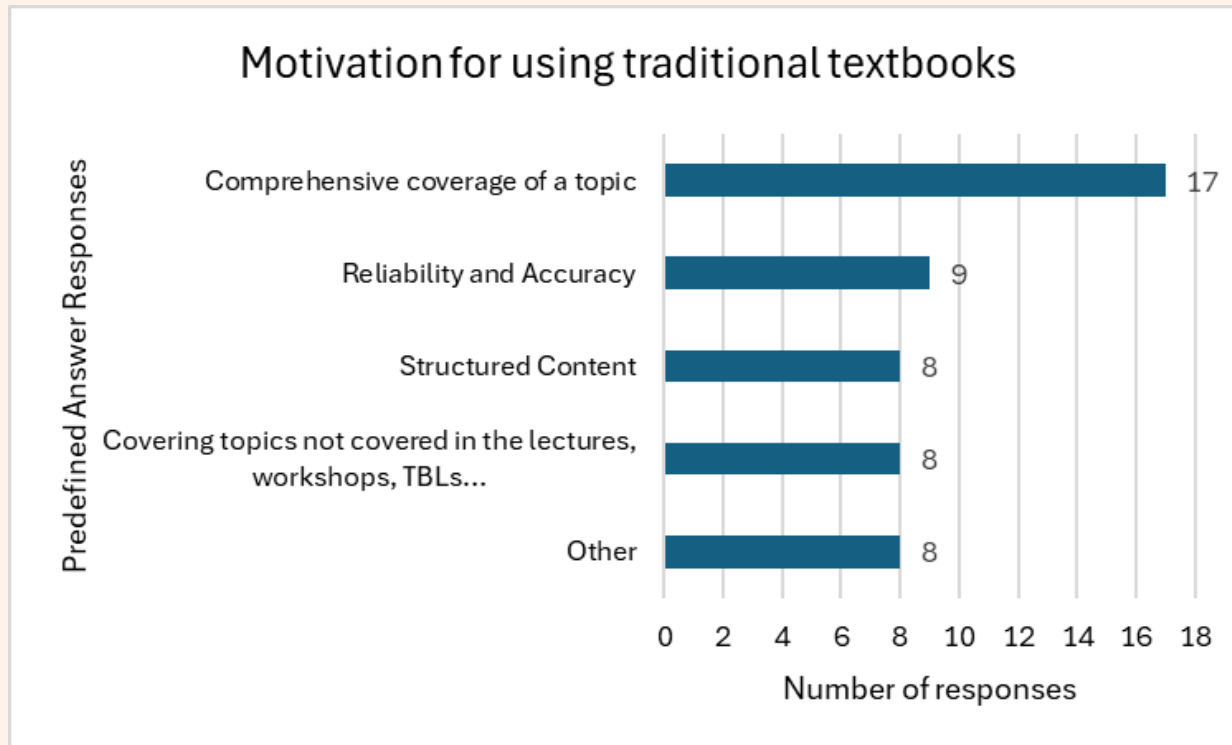
Rank	KMMS provided resource	Resource Title	Weighted Score
1	No	Clinical Skills Net	64
1	Yes	Clinical Skills Hub on VLE	64
3	No	OSCEstop	47
4	Yes	Macleod's Clinical Examination	45
5	Yes	OSCE Part of PassMedicine	44
6	Yes	TBL content on KMMS Learn	36

In the open answer question, *Geeky Medics* was frequently mentioned as an important resource for OSCE preparation.

Frequency and ranking of books students used for UKMLA - AKT preparation

Rank	Resource	Never	Sometimes	Often	All the time	Weighted Score
1	Pass the PSA	11	7	8	5	69
2	The ECG Made Easy	9	17	5	0	58
3	Kumar and Clark Clinical Medicine	14	14	2	1	52
4	Oxford Handbooks	16	12	3	0	49
4	Crash Course Series	17	11	2	1	49
6	Psychiatry	17	11	3	0	48
7	Medicine in a Day	24	5	0	2	42
8	At a Glance series	26	3	2	0	38
9	Essential Primary Care	27	4	0	0	35
10	100 Cases in General Practice	29	2	0	0	33
11	Medical Ethics	30	1	0	0	32
					Average	46

Motivation of Using Resources - Books



“Other”: one student explained that a textbook *“gives an understanding of a topic from start to finish instead of random bullet points. If you’ve read it, you know the topic.”*

13% (n=4) students stated that they either did not use textbooks or found them unhelpful.

Frequency and Motivation – Gen AI

Frequency of Use

Rank	Resource	Weighted Score
1	ChatGPT	68
2	Gemini (Google, Chrome)	35
3	Copilot (Microsoft, Edge)	31
4	ScopusAI	29
5	Apple Intelligence	28

Motivation

Rank	Resource	Weighted Score
1	Explaining medical concepts and conditions	66
2	Creating memory aids and mnemonics	60
3	Generating differential diagnoses	57
4	Practicing for OSCEs by creating virtual patients	52
5	Writing a medical question for revision	50

Other: *“I would put questions I got wrong from Passmed on ChatGPT and get it to explain to me why the answer was this or if I wanted more detail of an explanation from the passed questions I would ask ChatGPT to teach me this for the standard of a UK final year med student.”*

KMMS vs Non-KMMS resources

Top 20 Resources

	Number of resources	Average weighted score
Resources provided by KMMS	5 (26%)	69
Resources purchased by students or free resources	14(74%)	69

Student Engagement with KMMS in-house resources vs external resources

KMMS in-house resources (e.g.VLE content)	External Resources
20%	80%

- The 20% on average engagement with in-house resources is likely attributable to CPSA revision only, given that KMMS in-house resources on the VLE were ranked equally with Clinical Skills Net.

Conclusions

- PassMedicine is the most used resource for UKMLA-AKT preparation.
- KMMS students rely on third-party resources (question banks, flashcards, learning platforms) to prepare for the UKMLA.
- KMMS doesn't provide some of the third-party resources in the Top 20, but most of these resources are free. Only Geeky Medics offers an institutional subscription.
- Some revision books (Pass the PSA) and textbooks (Kumar & Clarke, Macleod's) are frequently used.
- For CPSA preparation KMMS in-house resources are well used.
- The emerging role of GenAI as a "personal tutor".

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- All students of this cohort passed the UKMLA

Paper

- Sadiq, S., Gschwandtner, M., Hollenberg, Z., and Parkin, C. (2026) 'Examining Learning Resources Used by Year 5 Medical Students for UKMLA Preparation: A Descriptive Case Study', *Medical Science Educator*, 1-13.
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