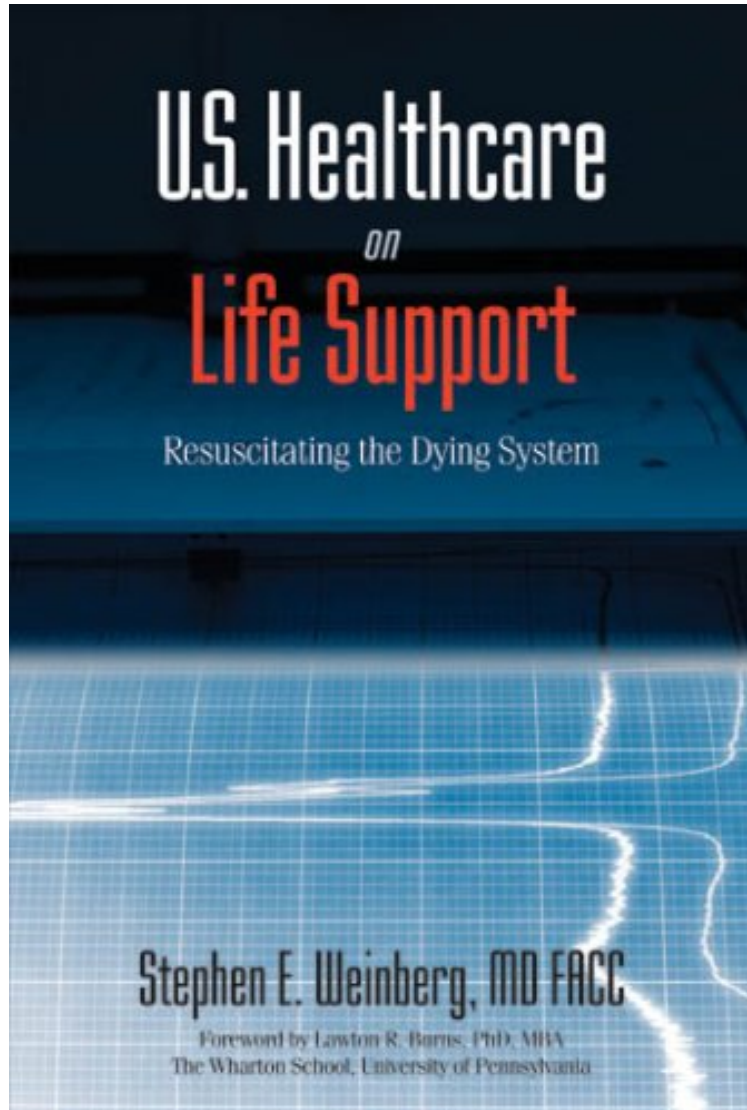


(Download ebook) U.S. Healthcare On Life Support: Resuscitating the Dying System

U.S. Healthcare On Life Support: Resuscitating the Dying System

Stephen E. Weinberg

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#4718598 in Books Denisher Press 2007-09-07 Original language: English 9.00 x 5.75 x .251, .48 Binding: Perfect Paperback 128 pages | File size: 59.Mb

Stephen E. Weinberg : U.S. Healthcare On Life Support: Resuscitating the Dying System before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised U.S. Healthcare On Life Support: Resuscitating the Dying System:

This indispensable book is designed to give readers the information they need to engage in meaningful debate about a subject that affects all of us: healthcare. The United States is the only industrialized nation in the world that does not

mandate quality health insurance for all its citizens, and the result is losses for society in terms of productivity, misuse of emergency rooms, an increased tax burden, and lower life expectancy. Dr. Stephen Weinberg provides a comprehensive analysis of the underlying issues, demonstrating how: Poor reimbursement policies are creating a crisis wherein quality professionals are leaving healthcare and young men and women are not choosing to enter. \$600 billion per year can be saved by overhauling crucial aspects of the healthcare system. The huge administrative costs of private insurers can only be reduced effectively by switching to a single-payer system. Anyone who wants to be informed about the state of healthcare in twenty-first-century America needs to consult Dr. Weinberg's *U.S. Healthcare on Life Support*. It should be mandatory reading for all our legislators and for all concerned citizens. As Dr. Weinberg notes, Your personal health, longevity, and quality of life are at stake, as well as your money. The system is on life support and is in danger of not surviving, and, if it fails, we will all pay the price.

U.S. Healthcare on Life Support: Resuscitating the Dying System by Stephen E. Weinberg, MD, FACC. Whereas other books about the healthcare crisis have addressed isolated aspects of the problem in a merely anecdotal manner, Stephen Weinberg's *U.S. Healthcare on Life Support* offers a comprehensive but concise and thoroughly annotated analysis of the situation from the perspective of a medical professional. *U.S. Healthcare on Life Support* aims to educate readers whether they be legislators or ordinary citizens about the system and its discontents. Only by thoroughly understanding the problems, Weinberg argues, can one participate in a meaningful way in national debates that might lead to productive solutions. A practicing cardiologist for nearly three decades, Weinberg has been living the healthcare problem for all that time and so is particularly well situated to explain it to others. He began this project with a simple desire to try to figure out, in mathematical terms, why our healthcare system is so costly compared to the systems of other industrialized nations and why healthcare costs are growing faster than the general cost of living. Weinberg's mathematical bent perhaps owes something to his background as an engineer; regardless, it serves the reader well, as Weinberg presents the facts and follows the money. The bulk of *U.S. Healthcare on Life Support* offers a cogent and objective economic analysis that includes numerous instructive comparisons between U.S. healthcare expenditures and those of Canada and European nations. Weinberg focuses on such key issues as physician salaries, uncompensated medical services, de facto price controls, hospital costs and efficiency, and malpractice premiums, in each case identifying where problems in the current system lie, how much they are costing all of us, and which ones can most effectively be corrected. The analysis is sober (and sobering), leading inexorably to dire conclusions that should be cause for profound concern, as when Weinberg points out: The poor reimbursement policies of this country are creating a very serious crisis wherein quality professionals are leaving healthcare and young men and women are not choosing to enter. We will all pay the price for this. The diagnosis of the initial chapters is followed by a series of prescriptions in the final chapters. Weinberg's sensible Golden Rule for reforming the system is: The healthcare dollar should be sacred and should be used for providing care and nothing else! Weinberg proposes many practical steps toward more sensible stewardship of healthcare dollars. Most notably, he advocates a single-payer system, which could save the U.S. about \$1,400 per person and in excess of \$400 billion annually in administrative costs alone. Weinberg rejects the label socialized medicine for this system, pointing out that it is no more socialized than Medicare is. He also believes a single-payer system can be implemented that avoids the negative aspects of the Canadian and United Kingdom systems. Even more important than these specific proposals, however, is the analysis of the underlying problems, which provides a framework for productive debate about the issues. By knowing the facts and the actual problems, one can begin to formulate realistic solutions. Anyone who wants to be informed about the state of healthcare in twenty-first-century America needs to consult Dr. Weinberg's *U.S. Healthcare on Life Support*. It should be mandatory reading for all our legislators and for all concerned citizens. --Scott Flora, *About Books*

Author Stephen E. Weinberg, MD, FACC, is a board certified cardiologist with nearly thirty years of experience. He is a founding member of the Cardiovascular Associates of the Delaware Valley and has worked at Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, Kennedy Health System, and South Jersey Health System since 1978. Dr. Weinberg was also director of the Cardiac Diagnostic Center of Southern New Jersey and the Delaware Valley Health Institute. In addition, he is Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at UMDNJ School of Osteopathic Medicine and a lecturer for the Wharton Healthcare MBA Program, as well as a consultant to several regional and national health insurance companies. Dr. Weinberg has conducted numerous clinical research studies. Currently, he lives in southern New Jersey with his wife Denise.