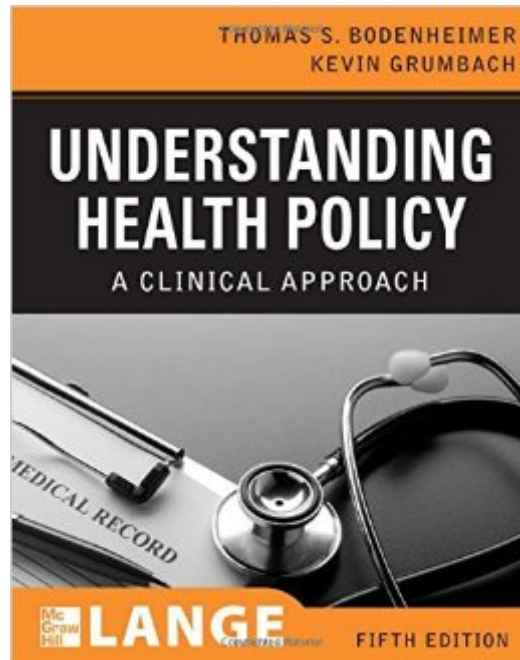


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# Understanding Health Policy, Fifth Edition (LANGE Clinical Medicine)



## Synopsis

An engaging and clinically applicable work on the principles and structure of the U.S. healthcare system A Doody's Core Title for 2011! "Eminently readable...Anyone wanting to gain insight into the forces that shaping health policy and the future of health care will appreciate this book."--Critical Care Nurse Magazine Understanding Health Policy is the best-written, most informative book available on the subject--and it's the #1 choice for healthcare students and professionals alike. The authors carefully weave key principles, descriptions, and concrete examples into chapters that make important health policy issues both interesting and understandable. Fully updated to reflect current issues in the ever-changing world of healthcare, the newest edition addresses all the topics that affect you most, from the structure and organization of the industry to issues regarding government and private insurance, to access to healthcare. Everything you need to understand how the healthcare system works - and your role in it: Clinical vignettes in every chapter illustrate key points Detailed treatment of both U.S. and international issues A complete chapter of review questions NEW Expanded coverage of healthcare workers other than physicians NEW Closer scrutiny of the pharmaceutical industry NEW Brand-new chapter on the medical education system

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I used this book in undergraduate health policy programs and in one health care administration graduate elective. The majority of students found it to be a useful introduction to the difficult area of

health policy. By incorporating pertinent examples and graphs students found the text more understandable and useful than say other required readings like Paul Starr's classic. Whatever their level of understanding coming into class, students were able to glean valuable information and insight. My reservation is similar to many books, e.g., by the time of publication much has changed. However, there is relevant material and with supplements this will remain a valuable resource.

This book is a great basic review of how health care is delivered. The format and information is most useful for people who are going into medicine. There isn't really anything about the politics behind health care policy; instead the book focuses on defining key terms and outlining the structure of relationships between payers, receivers, and providers. The book also covers the differences between different types of insurance policies, as well as different national health plans of countries with more socialized medicine.

This book was a requirement for my medical school curriculum. Once I started reading this book, I couldn't put it down. I've never read any other books on health policy, so I don't have anything to compare it to, but I thought it was an excellent book. It is very well written, very easy to understand and extremely informative. I believe anyone interested in health care, medicine, etc. should obtain the knowledge in this book and what better source than "Understanding Health Policy".

This is probably the best single text I have read on healthcare policy issues in the USA. The book addresses every relevant aspect of our system. Unlike other excellent books, such as Dr. Arnold Relman's book, *A Second Opinion*, which analyzes the system, then makes recommendations on how to reform it, the authors here mainly explicate. The format of the book includes brief, usually fictitious, vignettes about physicians, patients or administrators that illustrate the points the authors present. That format - combined with the simply-presented, clear narrative and analysis - works very well. I also find the references to be excellent. Aside from Dr. Relman's book, I recommend any of the books by Prof. Victor Fuchs, in particular *Who Shall Live?*, books by Prof. Theodore Marmor and the classic by Prof. Paul Starr, *The Social Transformation of American Medicine*. There are many other excellent books and articles by a wide range of insightful analysts. These kinds of books are invaluable for understanding the issues in healthcare. So much of the information that filters through to the average person via news reports, propaganda issued by parties with vested interests to protect and superficial proposals from politicians is inaccurate and misleading, usually grossly so. Reading a book such as this goes a very long way towards cutting through that clutter regardless of

one's personal experiences and prejudices.

Policy isn't always a class that graduate students look forward to, but it is the underpinning of all social work practice. It's best to understand how policies are developed and why - especially if you intend to advocate for policy reform. I'm a bit biased because I love policy and macro-level social work with all my bleeding heart, but this is a good book. Easy to understand without needing to constantly refer to a glossary.

I teach healthcare policy and am currently using this text. It does a great job covering the important issues. It's quite readable, as a new edition very topical and, through the use of vignettes, humanizes the consequences of policy decisions. It also has questions keyed to each chapter for assignment use. It is not an academic text and I am supplementing with articles (many of which can be found in the excellent references section following the chapters) as well as articles from news sources. Recommend highly.

good and interisting, I use them very good.I will contnue to buy many many thing from . For last a couple years, I had bountg a lot of stuff from there, I fill very convinince. Thank you very much.

I got this book for a graduate class that I am taking. This book uses clear language when presenting the material and has many mini "case studies" for examples, which makes it easy to read. Though I am required to read this book, it is not the standard, wall-of-text, that I am use to reading.

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