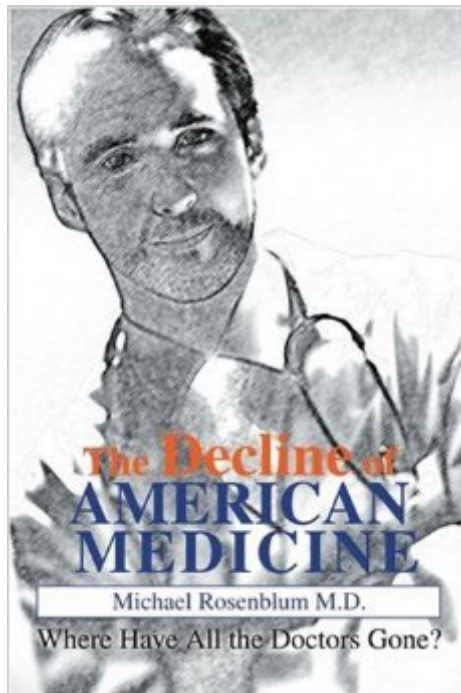


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# The Decline Of American Medicine: Where Have All The Doctors Gone?



## Synopsis

Why is it so difficult to find a good doctor, and see the doctor when you have a problem? Why are you told to "go to the emergency room?" Why is your "doctor" a nurse practitioner? The U.S. health care system, heralded as the finest in the world, has been in decline for a number of years. Here are the explanations for the decline in availability of primary health care, its increasing cost, and the increasingly impersonal care encountered by the patient. Dr. Rosenblum, chosen by his peers as a leading physician in his community, clarifies the many issues contributing to deterioration of health care. He employs his experience as an internist, and interviews with key individuals involved in health policy and health care delivery. He proposes solutions to halt the disintegration of primary health care, which if restored to its former position of prominence, would reverse the downhill course of medical care in the United States.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you are wondering why your medical care has deteriorated and why it is difficult to get the type of health care you want, you must read this book. The author explains very well how it was, what happened, where it is today and what we can expect in the future from our doctors, hospitals and health care providers. You hear many things about the condition of our health care system from different sources, but this comes right from a man who was there in the trenches fighting insurance companies, HMO's and the like in an attempt to provide the best health care possible in continually deteriorating conditions. Having been a firefighter / medic for many years and working closely with

emergency room staff, doctors and hospitals I can appreciate the substance of this book. If you are in the health care field you have to read this book, if you are using the health care system you MUST read this book. A must read for anyone who sees a decline in the care they are getting today. I had trouble putting the book down after I started reading it!!

It does not matter if you come to this subject from the left or the right, this book will both scare and anger you. Doctors are being paid by HMOs to actually not see patients on one hand and are buried in government mandated paperwork on the other. Whether it is the marketplace or the bureaucracy who is actually focused on healthcare? This book gives the reader a real world "in the trenches" understanding of the forces at play in modern medicine and will give you the courage to demand proper service for yourself and your loved ones.

As a Professor of Management teaching organizational and social research to doctoral students, a citizen active in national politics and an aging increasing consumer of medical services, I found this book carefully researched and quite useful. It helped me see ways to move beyond the current mess in terms of national policy and, on a personal level, what to do for myself and my family. It's truly shocking that the U.S. -- with the highest per capita medical expenditures in the world -- falls substantially below a number of other countries in life expectancy. For the unemployed, the poor AND many in the middle class, the widespread lack of medical services and insurance is an embarrassment and a scandal. As Dr. Rosenblum demonstrates, the result creates intense personal suffering and greatly increases the real cost to taxpayers because uninsured individuals end up in emergency rooms or extended hospital stays due to lack of early treatment. On a personal level, even though I am a well-employed and insured professional, I find it increasingly difficult to obtain necessary care as frustrated doctors retire early or restrict whom they treat. Dr. Rosenblum's text suggests way to help cure our horrendous medical mess on a national and community level and points out what I need to do to care for myself and my family in the meantime. I believe every concerned citizen, activist and concerned user of medical care will benefit from this book.

Dr. Rosenblum gets it all right here. Preserving excellence in health care for future generations will demand a serious soul search, particularly on the part of insurance carriers and other 3rd parties (including trial lawyers). The brightest and best students are loathe to study medicine because they cannot afford the education/sacrifice, and afterwards they cannot afford the spiraling overhead and

risk of practice. Primary care medicine has indeed been thrashed. The doctor lays down his message with brilliant clarity. Fine suggestions are made (so don't give up hope). This potent little book is required reading.

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