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# Understanding The U.S. Health Services System, Fourth Edition



## Synopsis

This book provides a straightforward explanation of the complex health services system. It explains the basic concepts as well as current issues to clarify how the U.S. health services system is organized, managed, and financed. This edition addresses the many changes happening in the U.S. health care system and updates data and statistics so readers can understand and discuss the current issues. New in the fourth edition: An update on the changes to Medicare coverage, including adding means testing on optional coverage for beneficiaries, a new discussion of the legislation the current administration would like to implement for universal healthcare coverage, a new focus on the quality-of-care debate and pay-for-performance incentives, new requirements for not-for-profit hospitals to report services provided in order to validate their tax status An update on managed care and how universal coverage could change payment and delivery Updated information on biomedical research and the debate on whether the United States will remain a leader in this effort, a new discussion of the effects of the current economic downturn on healthcare An updated discussion on the status of the healthcare workforce and how nursing and possible physician shortages will affect our system, a discussion on health care expenditures and the estimated 47 million people who are currently uninsured, a master bibliography has been created and is now located at the back of the book, updated glossary and acronym list.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It's OUTDATED! Written in 2010, not relevant to the current US Healthcare System in many ways.

There are other books that have up to date info. The format of the information and the way it is organized and presented is excellent. BUT, it is a super boring read and the grammar is weird sometimes, like maybe it was written by someone who is British or something? Anyway, it's okay but not my fave.

This book has a lot of information in it. Somewhat difficult to find if you are doing an open book test so I suggest you have a system on how to find things. But it was informative and the colors were easy to see. Lots of graphs. I got an A in the class.

Purchased this book part of Sacred Heart University's DPT program for the final semester. It was harped on that it was 100% necessary book to pass the classes - so I bought it got ~\$90 new. I used it for ~ 1 week and than sold it right back on . 95% of the information in this book can be found online for free with little to no hassle in searching (Finished with a 3.95/4.00 GPA that semester without this book, so there!). For my physical therapy program it was useless - for others it might be more necessary though.

For such a dry subject, Ms Barton did a nice job of presenting the information in an organized manner without getting "bogged down" in minutia. For my own needs, I found little benefit from all of the grafts and visuals. But in fairness, I understand their purpose. Her narrative was more helpful to me in preparation for Nurse Case Management Certification.

The book gave a good overview of the US healthcare system and how broken it is. It was somewhat short on solutions to fix it and is a bit behind the times about where health care is at this time

Needs updating. Most recent version was published in 2010 and too much has changed since then. However, clearly written and provides good background info.

The author present many relevant statistics and features of the present state of health care in America. This is a good beginner's text.

This book is useful in how detailed it is. I find it interesting to read as well. Bought used and it came in almost new condition.

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