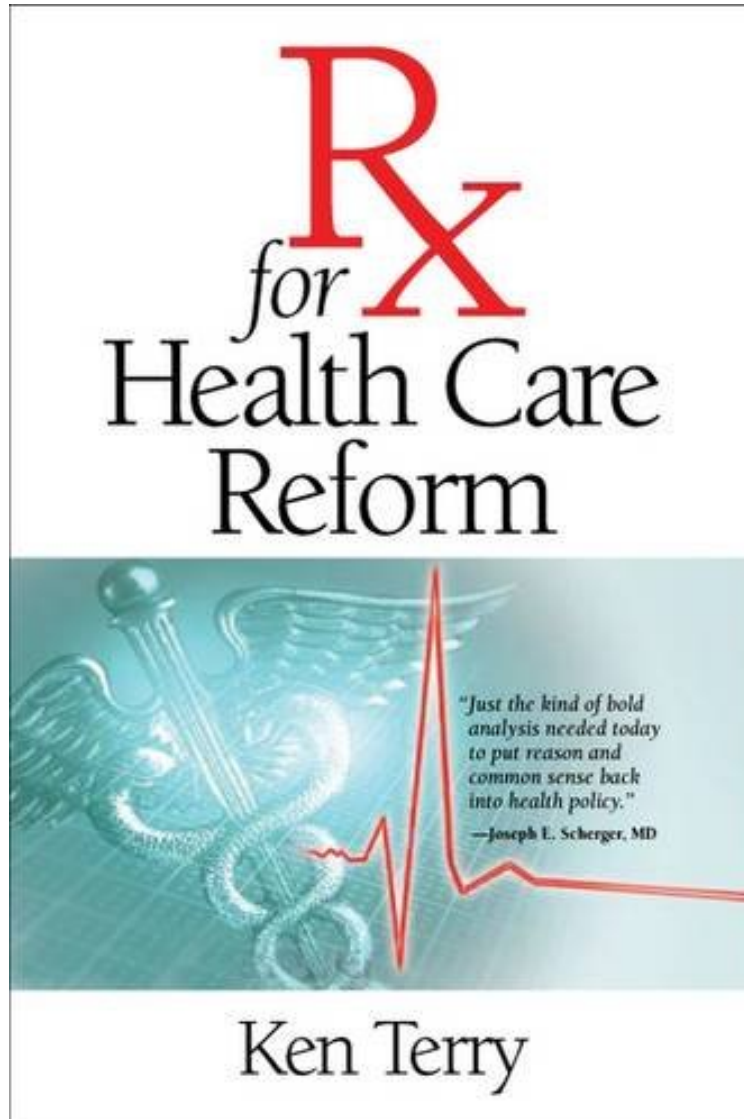


(Download ebook) Rx for Health Care Reform

Rx for Health Care Reform

Ken Terry

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Ken Terry : Rx for Health Care Reform before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rx for Health Care Reform:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An eye-opening read as to how we got into our current approach to "sick-care" By W. Roth A foundational book for understanding how our healthcare system came to be, why it is filled with all the wrong models, incentives (treating sick makes way more money than getting people well) and structures and what we have to consider to reform our system. As of 2015, the US ranks 7th in the top 11 industrialized nations for life expectancy with only Russia, Brazil, India and China behind them. But the US pays \$9063 per life whereas the

others pay between \$1300-\$65. Our cost of healthcare are almost 20% of our GDP - twice as high as the next industrialized nation - and it is handicapping the commercial success of our country's products and services as we seek to compete on the global stage. Ken's book is easily a solid step forward in understanding the drivers and what strings we need to start to pull to unravel this mess.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Must-ReadBy Jeffrey A. BurgerIf you really want to understand what's wrong with our health care system and how to fix it, this is the book to start with. You won't find a clearer or more thoughtful analysis of the system's problems anywhere (certainly not in the position papers of the presidential candidates), nor will you find a better route to a cure. Terry eschews rhetoric and generalities in favor of facts and real-life examples and explains in straightforward language how we got where we are and what we need to do to make things better. Whether you're a health care consumer or provider, this is a book you need to read. Let's hope the presidential candidates read it too, and take its advice to heart.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Worthwhile Reading for everone interested in healthcareBy Steven I. KernThis book should be required reading for physicians, hospital administrators and others concerned with the direction medicine is taking. It should also be read by every employer, labor leader and government official responsible for designing or implementing a health plan. Terry provides a carefully researched history of the development of America's healthcare system, a cogent assesment of its current strengths and weaknesses, and specific, albeit controversial, recommendations for its reform. He desribes the problems, analyzes the consequences of efforts to address the problems and focuses on the limitations of society to effectuate change.

In this readable and well-researched book, Ken Terry analyzes the current state of health care reform and finds it wanting. Instead of tackling the core problems in our failing system, he argues, politicians, insurance executives, and health care leaders have embraced ideologically driven initiatives that pursue impractical objectives or will take too long to bear fruit. Among these are such widely hailed trends as disease management, pay for performance, cost and price igrave;transparency,icirc; consumer-directed care, and health information technology, none of which will reverse the rising tide of health spending. What is creating this nightmare scenario, according to Terry, is the sheer profitability of the health care industry. Insurers, physicians, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, and device manufacturers are all striving to maximize their profits, and there is no effective competition or regulation to restrain them. Only a complete overhaul of our system for financing and delivering health care can get us out of this mess, the author maintains. In the second half of his book, he presents a bold vision of how to do this: First, he says, all primary care physicians should join group practices that are large enough to take financial responsibility for professional services. And second, competition among those physician groups, based on cost and quality, should replace competition among health plans. There should be only one government-regulated insurer per region, he says, and it should have no role in managing care.

This book should be required reading for all clinicians managers, policymakers and especially patients. --Jonathan P. Weiner, Professor of Health Policy Management, Johns Hopkins UniversityAbout the AuthorKen Terry, a senior editor of Medical Economics Magazine, the leading business publication for U.S. physicians, has won several journalism awards for his health care articles. In a previous incarnation, he was an editor for Billboard and Variety.