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Institutional Change And Healthcare Organizations : From Professional Dominance To Managed Care



Synopsis

Few large institutions have changed as fully and dramatically as the U.S. healthcare system since World War II. Compared to the 1930s, healthcare now incorporates a variety of new technologies, service-delivery arrangements, financing mechanisms, and underlying sets of organizing principles. This book examines the transformations that have occurred in medical care systems in the San Francisco Bay area since 1945. The authors describe these changes in detail and relate them to both the sociodemographic trends in the Bay Area and to shifts in regulatory systems and policy environments at local, state, and national levels. But this is more than a social history; the authors employ a variety of theoretical perspectivesâincluding strategic management, population ecology, and institutional theoryâto examine five types of healthcare organizations through quantitative data analysis and illustrative case studies. Providing a thorough account of changes for one of the nation's leading metropolitan areas in health service innovation, this book is a landmark in the theory of organizations and in the history of healthcare systems.

Book Information

Paperback: 452 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press; 1 edition (May 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226743101

ISBN-13: 978-0226743103

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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