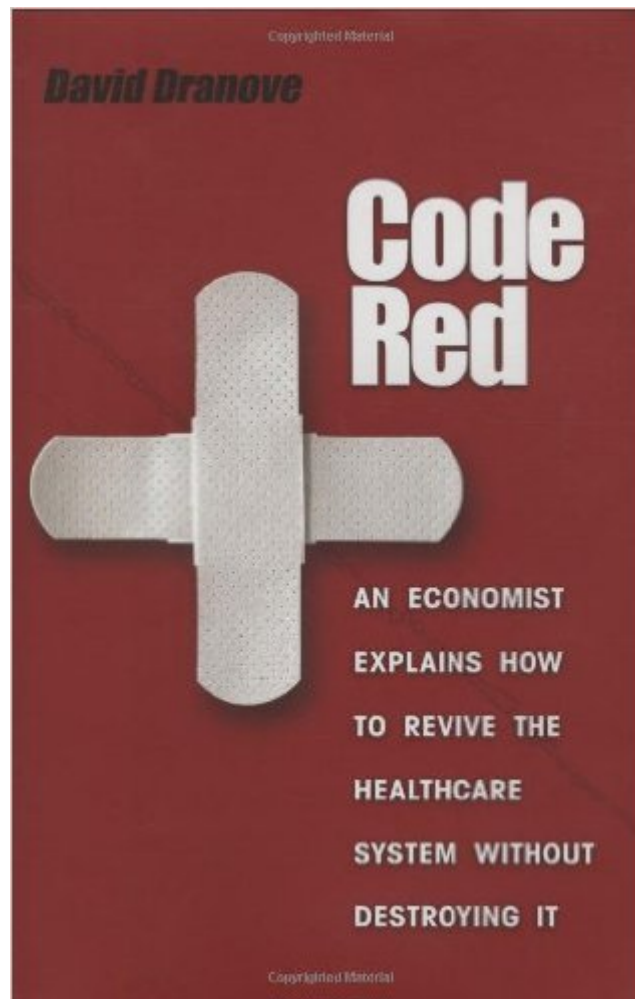


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# Code Red: An Economist Explains How To Revive The Healthcare System Without Destroying It



## Synopsis

The U.S. healthcare system is in critical condition--but this should come as a surprise to no one. Yet until now the solutions proposed have been unworkable, pie-in-the-sky plans that have had little chance of becoming law and even less of succeeding. In *Code Red*, David Dranove, one of the nation's leading experts on the economics of healthcare, proposes a set of feasible solutions that address access, efficiency, and quality. Dranove offers pragmatic remedies, some of them controversial, all of them crucially needed to restore the system to vitality. He pays special attention to the plight of the uninsured, and proposes a new direction that promises to make premier healthcare for all Americans a national reality. Setting his story against the backdrop of healthcare in the United States from the early twentieth century to the present day, he reveals why a century of private and public sector efforts to reform the ailing system have largely failed. He draws on insights from economics to diagnose the root causes of rising costs and diminishing access to quality care, such as inadequate information, perverse incentives, and malfunctioning insurance markets. Dranove describes the ongoing efforts to revive the system--including the rise of consumerism, the quality movement, and initiatives to expand access--and argues that these efforts are doomed to fail without more fundamental, systemic, market-based reforms. *Code Red* lays the foundation for a thriving healthcare system and is indispensable for anyone trying to make sense of the thorny issues of healthcare reform.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a great book to review what's wrong with America's health care system, how we end up here and how we may fix it. There isn't any complex econ model used to crack the "Red Code," neither any rhetoric about "fundamental change" which is favored by presidential candidates. Rich references and tables of numbers are clear and helpful for reading. The best part I like about this book is that it is not focused on one single aspect of health system but all three goals: access, efficiency and quality.

Dranove is a real economist and does a good job of laying out the economic principles that make the US health care market idiosyncratic. He also nicely and clearly distinguishes his own personal opinions and biases from empirical facts and the prevailing wisdom in the field. Not all "scholars" have such intellectual integrity. Anyone seeking a deeper understanding of US health care will find this book useful.

Great review of a tough topic and potentially explosive. Anyone looking to gain a solid understanding of the issues surrounding the current debate on healthcare financing and reform will find this book useful.

This book was an enjoyable read. I do not have an economics background and found the author made a complex subject content simple and easy to understand. He presented the facts with an unbiased perspective and shared his viewpoints at the end. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who is attempting to try and understand our country's dilemma with healthcare.

The author does an excellent job of presenting the history of healthcare in the United States. Dranove also presents a precise analysis of possible reform. Dranove explains with supportive data that the healthcare system in the United States as it now stands is doomed.

this book provided an informative overview of the history of organized healthcare in the US. Additionally, it outlined the barriers to healthcare reform. I used it for a course but have recommended it to friends as a good book to look at role of healthcare reform in this country

Only thing missing was the best practice for rationing healthcare. It was good to have such a good overview and document the challenges ahead.

Good info for those intersted in the economics of health care but really too many typos. The errors can be quite distracting.

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