

**Book: The Health Care Cure!**

Author: R.E. Biederman, D.O.

Publisher: Hats Off Books, 2002, Tucson, AZ

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**Book Review**

This was an interesting book by Dr. Bierdman and should be mandatory reading for every medical and nursing student. It is also essential for any MBA going in the field of healthcare administration. Surely the definitive book on how not to do healthcare, “The Healthcare Cure” gives many tragic examples of the healthcare system going off course. What is most impressive is the well-balanced explanations of how things digressed into the current dilemma we have in the healthcare arena.

Each chapter describes how “the system” has gotten to where it is now; a system so wrapped up in bureaucracy and frustration that it has a hard time keeping up with its intended end result—that of healing people. Though at times, negative, Dr. Biederman, builds a dynamic foundation. Politics, special interest groups, and a general selfishness seem to be Dr. Bierdman’s point throughout the book. He leaves no bureaucracy alone as he fires shots across the bows of the government, private industry, public industry, and doctors nurses, administrators, the pharmaceutical companies, and just about everyone else who has a stake in the healthcare arena. Though sobering in many cases, I kept asking myself, “Aren’t we doing anything correctly?” I would argue that, with all of our flaws, our healthcare system does have many great things going for it. Dr. Bierderman needed to give us more examples of them.

Dr. Biedermann does, however, seem to take his stand with the Medical Savings Account (MSA). This plan, consisting of a savings account to be used only for medical expenses, is deposited by a self-employer beneficiary or by an employer for use by the beneficiary if services are needed. Considering that Dr. Biedermann spends the majority of the book talking of the problems with the healthcare industry, I find it hard to believe he supports what appears to be yet another bureaucracy full of “fluff.” I just do not see this plan working but do see it has everything he seemed to frown upon throughout the book.

Though the “The Healthcare Cure” endlessly points out flaws in the healthcare arena, there are too few answers on how to fix the problems. This, unfortunately, took away some of my enthusiasm for the book. Yes, we all know the healthcare arena is racked with problems, and we have a general idea of how it got that way, but I was searching for guidance or suggestions in how to make it better.

The book was easy to read and very well written. It was clear the author was very passionate about his subject. Again, MBA students and students of the healthcare organization will enjoy this book.

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