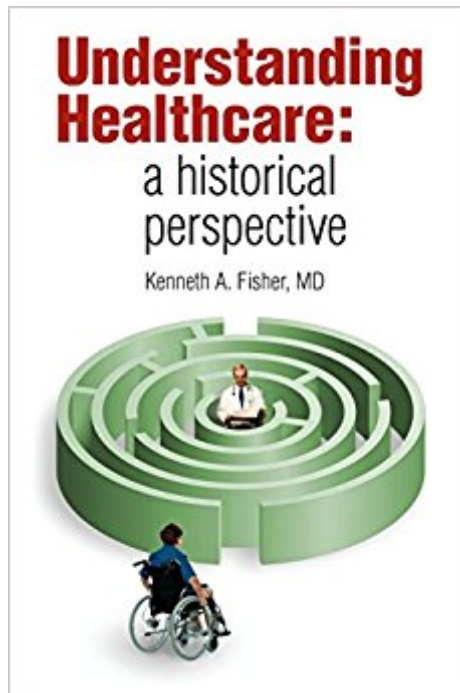




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# Understanding Healthcare: A Historical Perspective



## Synopsis

160 pages. With tables, reading list, and footnotes. Dr. Fisher provides the reader an in-depth understanding of how we got into this controversial, overly expensive, exceedingly complex and bureaucratic healthcare system and ends with a comprehensive solution delivering the promise of personalized care for all at far less cost. This manuscript was written with a historical perspective so that the reader will gain a clear understanding of the misconceptions and accidents of history that have led to our present dysfunctional and contentious system of healthcare. To most Americans healthcare is a confusing maze of inefficient complexity. Dr. Fisher explains how this happened and what we should do about it. The reader will learn how the scientific method, one of man's greatest achievements, led to modern medicine and the development of the profession. With the goal that everyone in the United States has access to affordable comprehensive care, we must understand the forces at work preventing us from achieving this elusive outcome. It is the author's intention that an informed populous will help guide our nation to a more individual-oriented system while consuming fewer resources. Our third party dominated price-fixed, pre-paid healthcare system is failing us. It consumes too many resources, keeping our nation from adequately funding other areas of importance, along with leaving many without coverage. The solution is an enlightened tax policy so that everyone has a health savings account growing over time, along with a high deductible insurance plan which would empower all of us to control our own healthcare spending and ensure universal access.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Dr. Fisher’s book provides not only a map showing the disastrous detours forced on the healthcare economy by the all-knowing folks in Washington, but also a way out. Dr. Fisher is the personification of the word “indefatigable” and outlines the important role Health Savings Accounts can play, a subject the reader will find he has mastered.” • Keith Smith, M.D., Diplomate-ABA; Co-Founder and Director, Surgery Center of Oklahoma; Co-Founder, Free Market Medicine Association;

“In this very informative and readable work, Dr. Fisher has succinctly outlined why an ideologically driven approach to American health care policy, which has proceeded for decades while willfully ignoring economic facts, has brought us to the current crisis situation. This is a problem for all Americans.” “This work should be required reading for all students of American health care policy, physicians and patients alike.” • Richard A. Armstrong, M.D., FACS; A strong advocate of patient-directed care, has served on the boards of several healthcare organizations including Docs4Patient Care Foundation and as a contributor to the American College of Surgeons. Recognized as a national authority he has testified in Congress as an advocate for the importance of the patient-physician relationship.

“In order to fix the broken American health care system, one must truly understand how we broke it. This book is an important read for those seeking to understand the problem. In his book, Dr. Fisher does an excellent deep dive into the history of American medicine. He effectively describes the rise of organized medicine and the injection of the Federal government into health care. He clearly defines the efforts of modern organized medicine and federalized health care’s struggle to maintain control, while spiraling out of control. He completes this journey by proposing thoughtful patient-centered solutions that build upon ideas introduced in our co-authored prescient piece written many years ago in the Washington Times. It is very well done.” • Lee S. Gross, M.D., Board Certified, Family Medicine; President, Docs 4 Patient Care Foundation; Co-Founder, Epiphany Health Direct Primary Care

“Understanding Healthcare a historical perspective is aptly named. Dr. Fisher’s book provides an essential survey of 150 years of U.S. healthcare policies, without which it is impossible to properly evaluate the cause of our current challenges, or to forge effective, lasting, and equitable solutions. A must read for all those who care about the future of American medicine.” • Beth Haynes, M.D., FAAFP; Executive Director, Benjamin Rush Institute;

“Ken Fisher’s perspective on healthcare is a veritable treasure. Besides being a gifted writer who is able to speak to even a nonmedical audience, Dr. Fisher has a keen awareness of the historical factors that have led us to where we are in healthcare today and understands a potential way out.” • Marion Mass, M.D., Board Certified, Pediatrics;

Cofounder and Executive Vice President of Practicing Physicians of America. She is a practicing pediatrician, wife and mother.

Dr. Fisher graduated from Tufts University in 1962 majoring in chemical engineering, and with distinction from George Washington University School of Medicine in 1968 having been elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society in his third year. He was a resident, and then chief resident in Internal Medicine at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City, and a fellow in Kidney Diseases at Yale University, finishing training in 1974. He was employed at a number of teaching medical centers throughout his career. He has been an insulin-requiring diabetic since 1963. Dr. Fisher has been the program director for two internal medicine residencies and two nephrology fellowships and has published several scientific papers on nephrology along with many articles and a chapter regarding health policy. Dr. Fisher was also a consultant nephrologist in Kalamazoo MI and the Medical Director for the Free Clinic in Kalamazoo from 2007 till its closing in 2010. He is the author of "In Defiance of Death: Exposing the Real Costs of End-of-Life Care", Praeger, Westport, Connecticut, 2008, and "The Ten Questions Walter Cronkite Would Have Asked About Health Care Reform", (2011) a free e-book available at:

<http://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/The-Ten-Questions-Walter-Cronkite-Would-Have-Asked-About-Health-Care-Reform>.

I do not know Dr. Fisher, so this is not a review by his " friend".His book is the most truthful, intelligent, historically supported book about our healthcare system that I have read!!If anyone desires an understanding of how we got to our current place and how we can get out...read this book!!I wish I could afford to send a copy to every member of the Congress and Senate, as MANDATORY reading!

A great historical book about the evolution of our current health system. The books reads easily and is extremely interesting and authoritative. Extensive research went into this book that is chock full of facts, but reads very easily.

This review of Healthcare in America is a must read for all citizens. Dr. Fisher's style of writing is raw but understandable and paints a picture of where we are and how we got here. Tremendously enjoyed!!!

Excellent book!

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