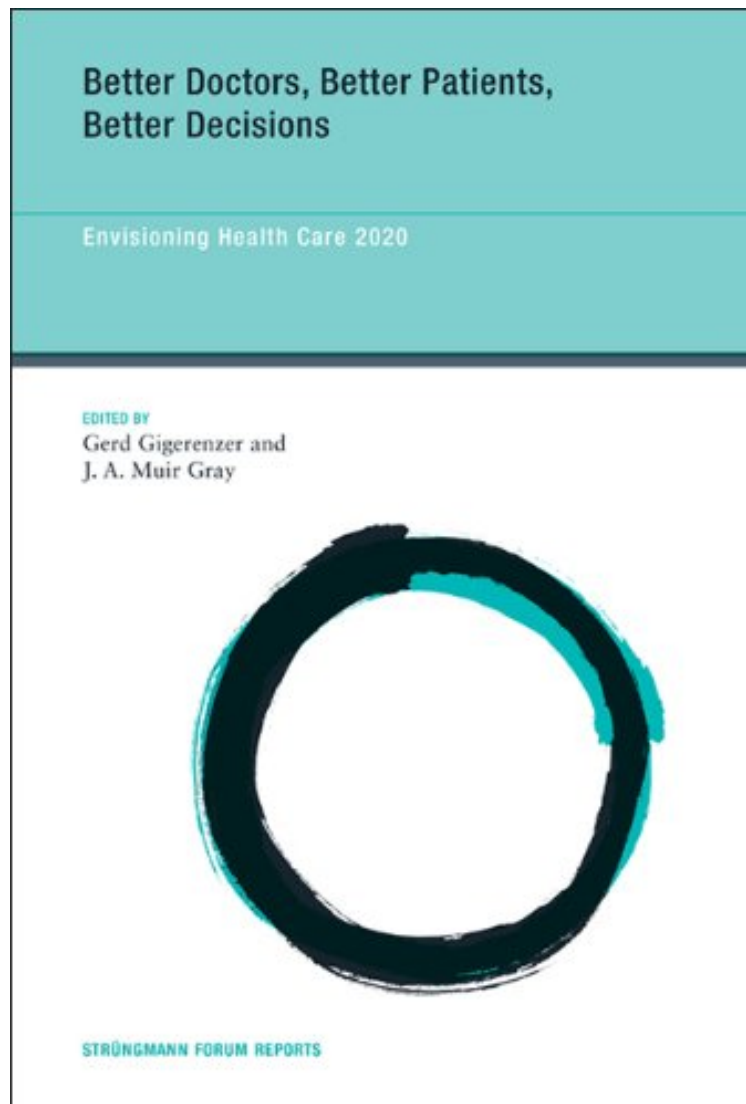


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Better Doctors, Better Patients, Better Decisions: Envisioning Health Care 2020 (Struuml;ngmann Forum Reports)

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From The MIT Press : Better Doctors, Better Patients, Better Decisions: Envisioning Health Care 2020 (Struuml;ngmann Forum Reports) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Better Doctors, Better Patients, Better Decisions: Envisioning Health Care 2020 (Struuml;ngmann Forum Reports):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must read for anyone in the medical profession or those wanting to

become a more informed consumer of medical treatment. By PomokoA must read for anyone interested in making medical care more affordable-- but also to recognize the hidden costs and falsehoods associated with so many tests, screenings, and prescription drugs. Ever wonder why we are bombarded on the television with ads for multiple "new" drugs? Is it possible people really NEED all these new drugs? Or do the drug companies just want to increase their market share-- Learn about how clinical trials don't tell the whole story-- how those who should use the oversight they should be using, don't. Learn why more and bigger hospitals don't necessarily equal more and better medical care. I will be bringing this to my first meeting with my new primary care physician. I am hoping she's read it and agrees that the judicious use of tests, medicines, and medical procedures is necessary to prevent our "medical bubble" from bursting. Its gotta start somewhere! 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book! By Jan Gerrit This book is highly recommended to any one involved in health care, professionally and otherwise. Any medical school should have this book on its reading list. Gigerenzer, Muir Gray and their team have done a great job. When taken to heart, the book will trigger a revolution in the way we think about quality in health care and what we will find acceptable practice. A piece of uncommon sense! The introductory chapter on the patient of the 21st century is set up as a manifest with seven sins and what to do about them: biased funding of research, biased reporting in health pamphlets, biased reporting in the media, commercial conflicts of interest, defensive medicine, doctor's lack of understanding of health statistics. These 7 sins result in misinformed patients. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Gigerenzer is a genius at explaining why and how good statistical reasoning is fundamental to both better and less ... By Dr. Turing Should be mandatory reading for any one in the health care profession (or business). And also for anyone who has ever had a diagnosis of disease X. Gigerenzer is a genius at explaining why and how good statistical reasoning is fundamental to both better and less expensive medical care. Even just reading the first chapter will open your eyes to a new way of thinking.

How eliminating "risk illiteracy" among doctors and patients will lead to better health care decision making. Contrary to popular opinion, one of the main problems in providing uniformly excellent health care is not lack of money but lack of knowledge -- on the part of both doctors and patients. The studies in this book show that many doctors and most patients do not understand the available medical evidence. Both patients and doctors are "risk illiterate" -- frequently unable to tell the difference between actual risk and relative risk. Further, unwarranted disparity in treatment decisions is the rule rather than the exception in the United States and Europe. All of this contributes to much wasted spending in health care. The contributors to *Better Doctors, Better Patients, Better Decisions* investigate the roots of the problem, from the emphasis in medical research on technology and blockbuster drugs to the lack of education for both doctors and patients. They call for a new, more enlightened health care, with better medical education, journals that report study outcomes completely and transparently, and patients in control of their personal medical records, not afraid of statistics but able to use them to make informed decisions about their treatments.

Health care needs an overarching goal that is shared by all stakeholders, and the one that is emerging is improvement of the value of care from the patients' perspective. This collection of papers from international experts explores the wide range of work that lies ahead, always thoughtfully and often brilliantly. --Thomas H. Lee, Network President, Partners Healthcare System, Boston This impressive series of position pieces is excellent and essential reading for all those seeking to promote patient involvement and improve patient experiences of health care. It brings together leading thinkers, planners, and implementers in the field, and as one would expect from the title is genuinely visionary--challenging patients, clinicians, policy-makers, and journalists to adapt to a rapidly changing world and ways of doing health care. --Adrian G. K. Edwards, Department of Primary Care and Public Health, School of Medicine, Cardiff University About the Author Gerd Gigerenzer is Director at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin. He is the author of *Calculated Risks*, among other books, and the coeditor of *Bounded Rationality: The Adaptive Toolbox* (2001) and *Heuristics and the Law* (2006), both published by the MIT Press. J. A. Muir Gray is Director of the National Knowledge Service, Oxford. He is the author of *Evidence-Based Healthcare*.