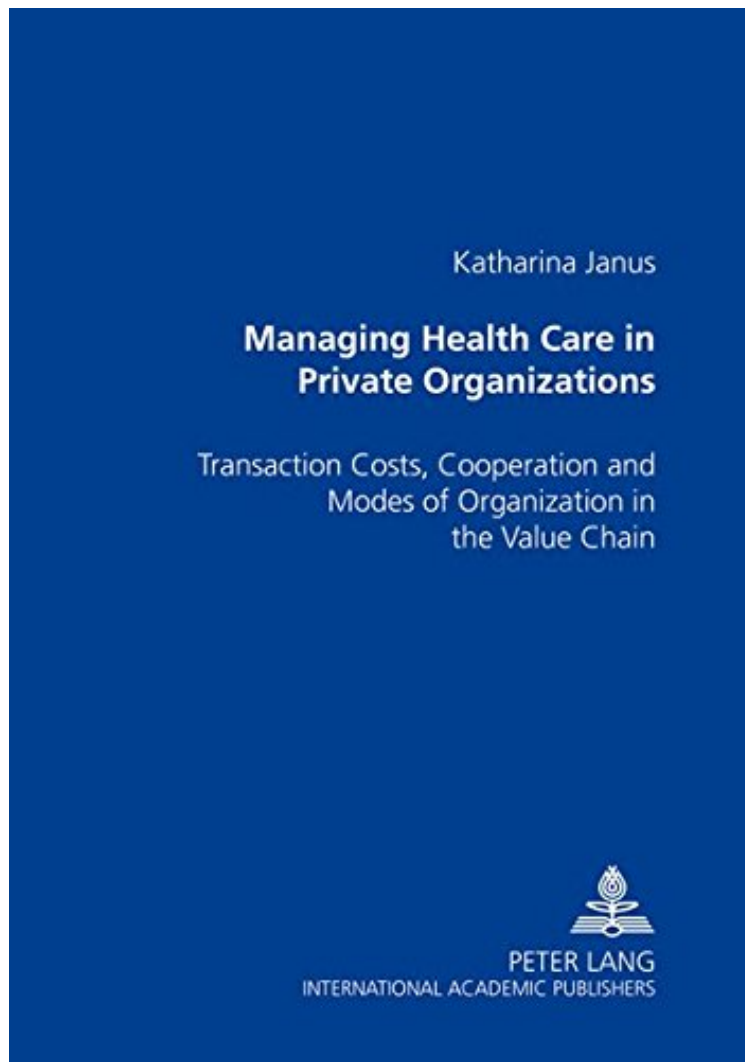


[FREE] Managing Health Care in Private Organizations: Transaction Costs, Cooperation and Modes of Organization in the Value Chain

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Health care delivery systems in all major industrial countries approach a crisis and there is no panacea so far to rising health care costs, in particular as an aging population and advanced medical technology further drive these costs. This dissertation does not attempt to provide a solution to the macroeconomic debate about health care costs. It rather focuses on microeconomics and how health systems (private entities) organize themselves ndash; cooperate, integrate, and disintegrate ndash; in a specific market, the San Francisco Bay Area, U.S.A. Based on transaction cost economics alternative modes of governance in the health care market are examined. For this purpose a long-term case study has been conducted in the Bay Area in order to evaluate how health care transactions should be organized to economize on transaction costs, which experiences have been made over the last years and which strategies are recommendable for future reorganization in the U.S. health care market and other countries. In addition, implications for the German health care market are discussed as well. A conclusion finally summarizes the findings and outlines further areas of research.

About the AuthorThe Author: Katharina Janus, born 1975, studied business administration and economics at the University of Hamburg and the University of Paris ndash; Pantheacute;on-Sorbonne. She received her Ph.D. in organizational studies from the University of the Federal Armed Forces Hamburg in 2003. The author specialized in the examination of organizational structures in health care delivery and spent one year in the United States to conduct a long-term market survey in cooperation with a multi-hospital system. Her interests are in managed care, international health system reform and integrated health care delivery.