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Titolo Fixing Medical Prices: How Physicians Are Paid / / Miriam J. Laugesen

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Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Abbreviations -- 1.

Introduction: The House of Medicine and Medical Prices -- 2. The Enduring Influence of the House of Medicine over Prices -- 3. The Science of Work and Payment Reform -- 4. How Doctors Get Paid -- 5. Conflicts of Interest and Problems of Evidence -- 6. Complexity, Agency Capture, and the Game of Codes -- 7. Conclusion -- Notes --

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Sommario/riassunto Medical care prices in the United States are not only the most expensive

in the world, but there are wide variations in what physicians are paid.

Doctors at the frontlines of medical care who manage complex conditions argue that they receive disproportionately lower fees than

physicians performing sorvices such as miner surgeries and

physicians performing services such as minor surgeries and

endoscopies. Fixing Medical Prices goes to the heart of the U.S. medical

pricing process: to a largely unknown yet influential committee of medical organizations affiliated with the American Medical Association that advises Medicare. Medicare's ready acceptance of this committee's recommendations typically sets off a chain reaction across the entire American health care system. For decades, the U.S. policymaking

structure for pricing has reflected the influence of physician

organizations. What Miriam Laugesen's rich analysis shows is how these organizations navigate the arcane and complex work of this advisory committee. Contradicting the story of a profession in political decline, Fixing Medical Prices demonstrates that the power of physician organizations has simply become more subtle. Laugesen's investigation into the exorbitant cost of American medical care will be of interest to those who follow the politics of health care policy, the influence of interest groups on rate setting, and the medical profession's past and future role in our health care system.