1. Record Nr. UNINA9910457265803321

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Titolo Evidence-Based Research [[electronic resource]]

Pubbl/distr/stampa Maidenhead,: McGraw-Hill Education, 2007

ISBN 1-280-95090-0

0-335-22441-5

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (308 p.)

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Disciplina 362.1072

Soggetti Public health

Health Services Research

Philosophy

Biomedical Research

Humanities

Health Care Quality, Access, and Evaluation

Health Planning Health Care

Health Care Economics and Organizations

Research Science

Natural Science Disciplines Disciplines and Occupations Public Health - General

Public Health

Health & Biological Sciences

Electronic books.

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di contenuto Cover; Half Title; Title; Copyright; Contents; Dedication;

Acknowledgements; Chapter 01; Chapter 02; Chapter 03; Chapter 04; Chapter 05; Chapter 06; Chapter 07; Chapter 08; Chapter 09; Chapter 09;

10; Index

Sommario/riassunto

This book covers the major perspectives in the philosophy of science and critically discusses their relevance to health care research, using examples of paradigms, concepts, theories and research findings in the health sciences. It makes sense of the bewildering variety of assumptions, world-views and epistemiological implications of the different research methods. It enables the reader to become an informed consumer of scholarship on health care issues. The authors describe how health care research has been influenced by positivistic and interpretative approaches, and how it has recently been