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Altri autori (Persone)	PrekerAlexander S. <1951-> ZweifelPeter SchellekensOnno P. <1964->
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Sommario/riassunto	Financial protection against the cost of illness and inclusion of vulnerable groups - will require better mobilization and use of private means. Private voluntary health insurance already plays an important role in mobilizing additional resources to the health sector and protecting against the catastrophic cost of illness in some countries. This review explores the context under which private voluntary health insurance could contribute to an improvement in the sustainability of the health sector and financial protection in other countries.