Record Nr. UNINA9910463112003321 Autore Hough Douglas E Titolo Irrationality in health care [[electronic resource]]: what behavioral economics reveals about what we do and why / / Douglas E. Hough Pubbl/distr/stampa Stanford, Calif., : Stanford Economics and Finance, an imprint of Stanford University Press, 2013 **ISBN** 0-8047-8574-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (312 p.) Disciplina 338.4/73621 Soggetti Medical economics - United States Medical care - United States Health behavior - United States Economics - Psychological aspects Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto What is behavioral economics--and why should we care? -- Keeping what we have, even if we don't like it -- Managing expectations and behavior -- Understanding the stubbornly inconsistent patient --Understanding the stubbornly inconsistent consumer -- Understanding the medical decision making process, or, Why a physician can make the same mistakes as a patient -- Explaining the cumulative impact of physicians' decisions -- Can we use the concepts of behavioral economics to transform health care? Sommario/riassunto The health care industry in the U.S. is peculiar. We spend close to 18% of our GDP on health care, yet other countries get better results—and we don't know why. To date, we still lack widely accepted answers to simple questions, such as "Would requiring everyone to buy health insurance make us better off?" Drawing on behavioral economics as an alternative to the standard tools of health economics, author Douglas E. Hough seeks to more clearly diagnose the ills of health care today. A

> behavioral perspective makes sense of key contradictions—from the seemingly irrational choices that we sometimes make as patients, to the incongruous behavior of physicians, to the morass of the long-lived

debate surrounding reform. With the new health care law in effect, it is more important than ever that consumers, health care industry leaders, and the policymakers who are governing change reckon with the power and sources of our behavior when it comes to health.