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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title Page; Copyright; Contents; List of Tables and Photos; List of Acronyms; 1: The Basic Dilemma: Is Health Care a Right or a Market Commodity?; What's Wrong with the Market Model?; Is There an Ethical "Right" to Health Care?; 2: The Accidental System; The Early Years;; HMOs and Prospective Payment;; The Public Sector: Niche Health Care;; Where Are Current Trends Leading?; 3: The Stakeholders and the Policy Process; The Clinton Health Plan Debacle and Its Aftermath;; Federalism Is Alive and Well in Health Care;; The Cast of Characters and Their Strategies, 4: Beneath the Dilemmas, the TrilemmaHow Do We Define Quality Care?; Health Care Costs: How High the Moon?; Is the Insured Population Increasing? No,; So, What's the Trilemma?; 5: Medicare and

Medicaid: The Entitlement Dilemmas; What Does Medicare Cost the Taxpayers? The Seniors?; Medicare: The Policy Dilemmas,; Medicaid: Medicare's Poor Relation,; 6: Good Health at Lower Cost: How Do Other Nations Do It?; Canada: Mixed Funding and Provincial Responsibility,; United Kingdom: Socialism with Private Beds,; Germany: Public Framework, Private Operation,; To Each Its Own, 7: Managed Care: Boon or Bane? Both! 107A Managed Care Profile,; The Case for Managed Care,; The Case Against Managed Care,; The Bottom Line? A Mixed Verdict,; 8: Controlling Costs: Mission Impossible?; Cost Cutting-Business Style,; Better Treatments Lead to Lower Costs,; Can the United States Change Its Culture of Medicine?; 9: A Sensible Wild Idea: Universalize Medicare; Americans Will Live with the Dilemma-But Not Forever,; Light at the End of the Health Care Tunnel?; A Simple Idea: Universalize Medicare,; Notes; Index

Sommario/riassunto

With the demise of the Clinton health care reform plan, the debate on health care changed but did not subside. From opinion pieces in newspapers to dinner-table conversations, the debate over whether the right to quality health care is a public right, akin to educating our children, or whether it is a private one, akin to life insurance, continues. In *The Accidental System* Michael Reagan shows that in the American political context, health care is neither exclusively a public right nor a private privilege. This insightful policy study provides students with an excellent demonstration of how public policy intersects with private markets.
