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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1 Changing the Guard -- 2 The Recent Transformation of Participatory Employment Practices in Japan -- 3 Determinants of the Shadow Value of Simultaneous Information Sharing in the Japanese Machine-Tool Manufacturing Industry -- 4 Who Really Lost Jobs in Japan? -- 5 Total Labor Costs and the Employment Adjustment Behavior of Large Japanese Firms -- 6 Individual Expenditures and Medical Saving Accounts -- 7 Supplementing Public Insurance Coverage with Private Coverage -- 8 Option Value Estimation with Health and Retirement Study Data -- 9 Why Do the Japanese Spend So Much on Drugs? -- 10 The Demand for Health Checkups under Uncertainty -- 11 The Role of Firms in Welfare Provision -- 12 Fringe Benefit Provision for Female

Sommario/riassunto

This volume, the fourth to result from a remarkably productive collaboration between the National Bureau of Economic Research and the Japan Center for Economic Research, presents a selection of thirteen high-caliber papers addressing issues in the employment practices, labor markets, and health, benefit, and pension policies of the United States and Japan. After an opening chapter assessing the recent ascendance of the U.S. economy, papers diverge to tackle a range of specific issues. Focusing less on international comparison than on the assembly of high-quality research, contributors hone in on a variety of individual topics. Chapters delve into issues of youth employment, participatory employment, information sharing, fringe benefits, and drug coverage in Japan, as well as the dynamics of medical savings accounts, private insurance coverage, and benefit options in the U.S. Like previous volumes stemming from NBER/JCER collaboration, this book represents a valuable mass of empirical data on some of the most notable employment and benefits issues in each nation, information that will both anchor and provoke scholarly analysis of these topics well into the future.
