



Future Health Systems: Why future? Why now?



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Is the challenge of building functional health systems as simple as the “scaling up” and “rolling out” of cost-effective interventions? How do the architects of health system reform take account of changing patterns of disease and diagnostic, therapeutic and information technologies? What roles will governments, markets, communities play in the health systems of the future?

Health is gaining a much higher profile in the political agenda of low and middle-income countries where institutional innovations are emerging in response to rapid economic and social transitions.

Edited by Gerald Bloom and Hilary Standing, with contributions from different disciplines, this special issue will be of particular interest to those concerned with health system development in current national and global debates and strategies for addressing the health problems of the poor. It will also interest students of health systems in advanced market economies as it argues that new developments in highly innovative countries in Asia and Africa may be precursors of more general institutional reforms in the future.

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