Cost Containment and Efficiency in National Health Systems

Written by local health economics experts, each of the eight chapters in this timely handbook and ready reference describes the national healthcare system of a different industrialized country.

In each case, the 4-5 specific policies with the highest impact on that respective country over the past 20-30 years are identified. In addition, the economic characteristics of each policy are described and, where possible, its success evaluated, discussing the current policy agenda. A final chapter summarizes and synthesizes the major points of the analysis.

While the main focus is on economics, this guide is written in non-technical language for an audience of health policy decision makers or students of health policy, making it an invaluable contribution to the current debate surrounding the control of rising healthcare-related costs in the developed world.