Librería

Bonilla y Asociados

desde 1950





Título:

Autor: Precio: \$337.00

Editorial: Año: 2008

Tema: Edición: 2ª

Sinopsis ISBN: 9780195325959

The central idea behind this book is that we lack consensus on principles for allocating medical resources-and in the absence of such a consensus we must develop and rely on a fair decision-making process that holds decision-makers accountable for setting reasonable limits on health care. Daniels and Sabin provide a cogent analysis of the current situation, lucidly review the usual candidate solutions, and describe their own approach. Their intended audience for the book is global since the problem of limited resources cuts across types of health care systems whether or not they have universal coverage.

In its first edition, Setting Limits Fairly stimulated considerable work on setting priorities in health care, both here and abroad. The second edition adds new material to the book, including a new chapter on the international response to accountability for reasonableness and two new chapters on applications of the approach in developing countries and in human rights approaches to health.

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