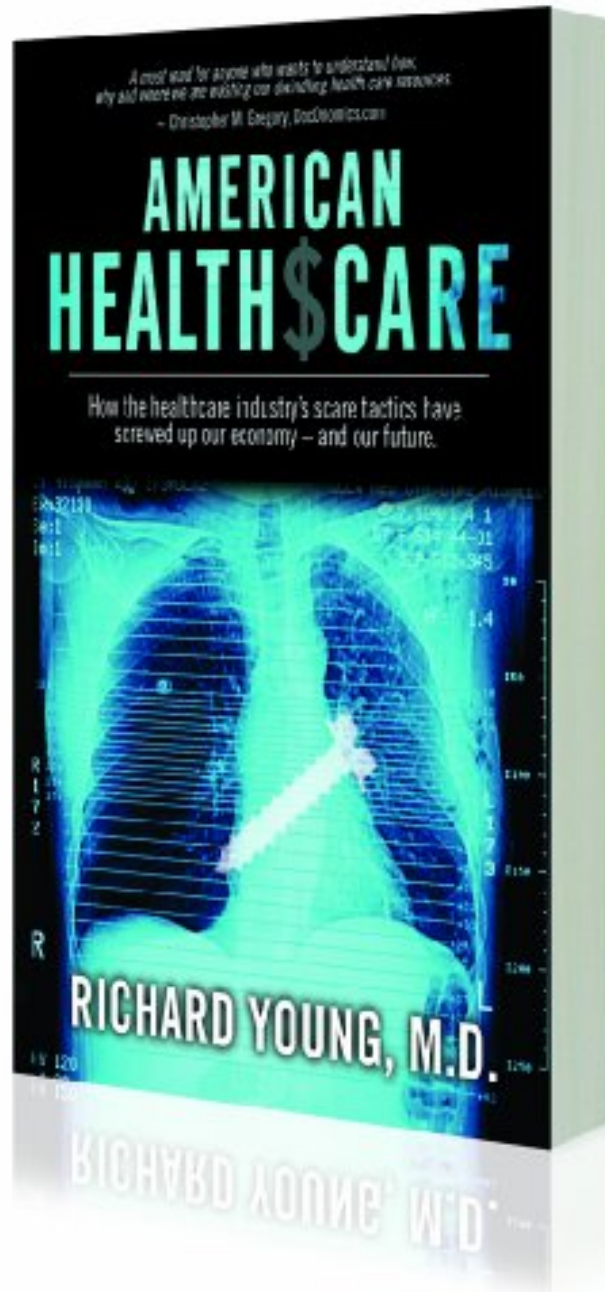


(Mobile pdf) American HealthScore

## American HealthScore

*Richard Young*

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**Richard Young : American HealthScore** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my

time, and all praised American HealthScare:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Evidence based medicineBy CustomerThis book stands out from the other books about health care reform in the following ways:1) The author, breaks it down to simple numbers. For example, while conveying to the reader that preventive screening does not save money in the long run, the author cites studies that show annual mammogram starting at age 40 for an average risk female will only increase her life expectancy by 3 to 20 days. The author cites studies that show the reader how much money it takes for a test or treatment to extend a person's life by one year (aggressive diabetes control for a 70-year old increases his/her life expectancy by 3 weeks at the cost of \$154,000 a year.)2) The author is not afraid to confront the belief shared by many Americans that lives should be saved no matter what the costs are and what quality remains. We are not saving lives; we are merely delaying death. The author is not afraid to bring up the debate of the value of one human life versus the needs of the general population in the community surrounding the one.3) The author proposes one basic health care plan that will provide the majority of evidence based medicine, and that if someone wants to go for the not so evidence-based treatment, the basic health care plan may consider it if traditional treatment has failed and that the cost of the new treatment is not exorbitant; otherwise one will have to pay for this non-approved care entirely. A panel including members of the general public sets the cost-effective threshold. The author stresses importance on transparency of these decisions, as all systems are subject to abuse.4) The author proposes studies be done on how to make current practice of medicine more efficient. That is, instead of focusing on developing new drugs, we compare old drugs to see which one works best for 50-year-old black males, for instance. Instead of focusing on how to lower the bad cholesterol LDL to zero, we first study whether it's going to be cost effective to the person at all. We don't know this, but a person may spend hundreds of thousands of dollars a year to lower LDL from 100 to 70 just to gain 2 months of life. Is anyone studying this?5) I can see that critics of the book might view it as an excuse for the physicians to do less than is conventionally required of them. So I must point out that the book deals with reducing the cost of health care based on evidence based medicine. In other words, the primary concern of the book is how to reduce the cost and still provide the best medicine based on evidence. People who want unlimited access to any medical treatment under the sun even if it does very little good are entitled to their value but they should not impose that belief on everyone else. And that is why the author does not propose a single national or even a state run program because he respects that people have different values. The author simply proposes that those who share his belief in how health care should be done form a group or groups that are covered under such a basic health care plan. This is where it might be difficult because currently you will have to do a lot of research to find such a plan to join. And this is where the author beseeches you to contact that power that be: your congressman, your state and local representative, your employer, your governor, your president, even perhaps the insurance companies themselves. And don't forget the power of the media; spread the word.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended readingBy Paul T. DavisEven I have trouble with the name of this book. However, I have heard Dr. Young speak about his book and that led me to purchase it and read it.It is not a "ranting and raving" book.Instead, it is a well-written, well-reasoned examination of the current problems with spiraling healthcare costs.In my opinion, this book makes a significant contribution to the health care debate that is still raging.Highly recommended0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy BJPGOOD "STUFF" IN THIS BOOK! THE AUTHOR HAS DONE A FANTASTIC JOB!BP

America's children will have worse lives than their parents unless we start making some tough decisions. The U.S. healthcare industry is a major cause of this future decay, but it doesn't care. It's too busy arrogantly assuming that forcing more expensive tests and treatments on Americans is best, always justified by the phrase "medically necessary." It assumes more healthcare leads to better health, when often the opposite is true. It convinces Americans to purchase marginally effective or ineffective care by scaring them into it. For the sake of our children and grandchildren, we must come together as a nation to face up to the excesses of our current healthcare system. It will require a complete reassessment of the role of the healthcare system in all of our lives. American Health\$care provides the road map of how to get there.