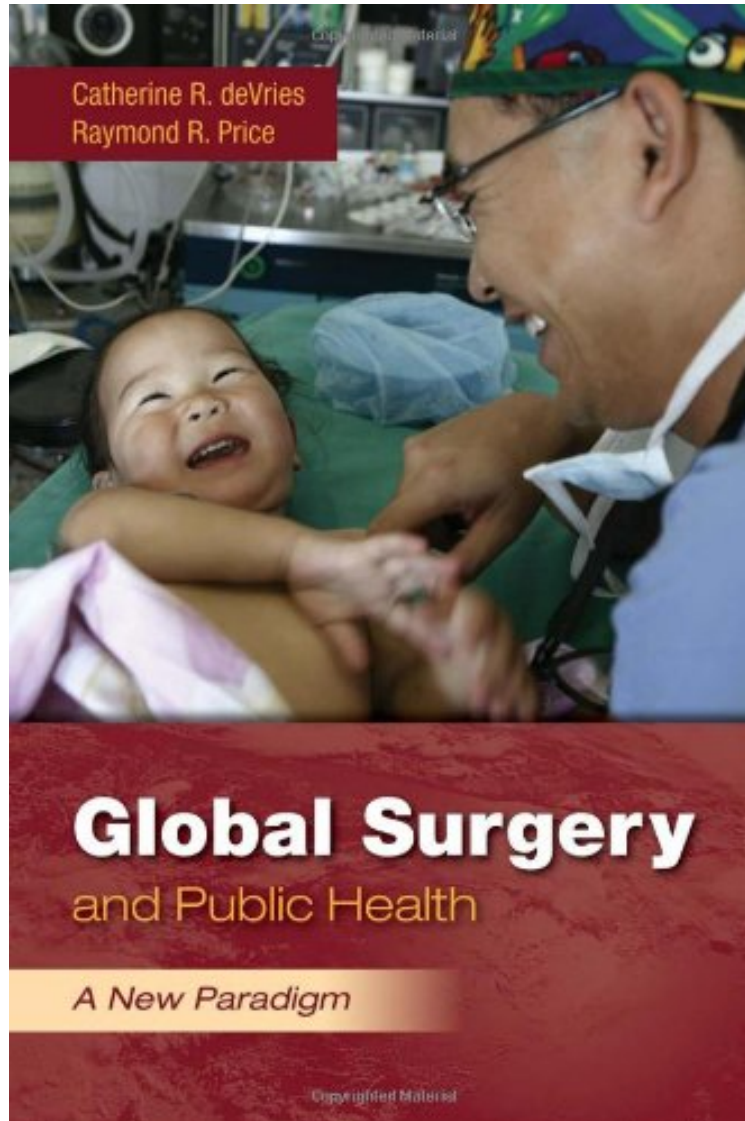


(Free download) Global Surgery and Public Health: A New Paradigm

Global Surgery and Public Health: A New Paradigm

Catherine R. deVries, Raymond R. Price
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Catherine R. deVries, Raymond R. Price : Global Surgery and Public Health: A New Paradigm before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Global Surgery and Public Health: A New Paradigm:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An essential addition to public health literatureBy DavidAs Paul Farmer described it, "Global surgery is the neglected step-child of global public health." Without a doubt, that was true when he said it a few years back and continues to be true, though there is finally progress being made. Books such as this one are as essential for the conversation they start as they are for the content contained within. Luckily, this book

succeeds on both counts. Both of the authors of this book, one a urologist and the other a general surgeon, have extensive experience in global surgery - both seen as a medical mission and, as they hope to develop it, as an element of public health. They have drawn liberally from these experiences, as they critically evaluate the (paucity) of literature available in the journals. Naturally, the book begins with an exposition on the current global burden of surgical disease, thought to be about 11% of DALYs in low and middle income countries (and expanding as non-communicable disease continues to skyrocket), and contrasts that with the minimal amount of money and effort that has been expended. The book then delves deeper into the usual suspect of public health concepts, such as measurements of burden, cost-effectiveness, etc. For those who have not heard of global surgery, the first portion of the book will be eye opening. For those who have some experience with the concept, it is the next portion that elucidates nutrition, trauma, obstetric care, the acute abdomen, and fairly basic procedures such as non-incarcerated hernia repair. The book goes into some detail about the specific disease related DALYs lost and the cost-effectiveness of intervention in each particular area. (These concepts are expanded upon in the last section of the book). In addition to the above, what I found most valuable was the discussion of tailoring the delivery of surgical services to a given region's needs AND cultural attitudes. There are specific examples of a Himalayan cataract organization, one of the author's efforts to bring laparoscopy abroad, and others. This leads into a discussion on the importance of disruptive innovation and collaboration with our engineering and design colleagues in coming up with cheaper solutions that are also effective. You cannot just give expensive CT scanners to low-income hospitals, as they will not be able to afford the upkeep and repairs. Instead, we must find ways to replicate the success of initiatives that have found indigenous solutions, such as the use of mosquito nets as hernia meshes. Overall then, I think this is an excellent synthesis of the global surgery knowledge to date (with ample references). Like many of these global public health books, I don't know that more experienced individuals will come away with a huge amount of concrete data or plans, but instead a deeper understanding of where we are today and where we are currently headed. Given that surgery is still on the outside looking in to the world of public health (especially in terms of NGO's), this is a conversation that needs to be continued. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By CustomerExcellent

Until recently, surgical services in developing countries have been neglected, despite the critical role they could play in preventing disease and saving lives. Over the last few years, world leaders, public health professionals, and surgeons have collaborated to discuss public policies, resource utilization, healthcare reform, surgical safety, and workforce issues in order to bring these life-saving services to those most in need. *Global Surgery and Public Health: A New Paradigm* offers the most current information as well as a systematic approach to considering surgery in the context of a broader umbrella of public health. It is ideal for courses in Global/International Health, Public Health, Surgery, Medical Anthropology as well as for professionals in public policy and international health care and humanitarian groups serving the surgical needs of patients in under-resourced settings.