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Donald L. Patrick, Pennifer Erickson

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Donald L. Patrick, Pennifer Erickson : Health Status and Health Policy: Quality of Life in Health Care Evaluation and Resource Allocation before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Health Status and Health Policy: Quality of Life in Health Care Evaluation and Resource Allocation:

This practical work provides a systematic guide to state-of-the-art development and application of health status and quality-of-life measures for health care policy and research. It explains how to allocate health resources by comparing costs and outcomes of alternative health policies to identify those with greatest benefit in relation to cost. The book outlines how to collect and organize data to calculate the cost per year of healthy life gained for competing interventions. The use of these data in a social and political decision-making process based on community values and objectives is then discussed. Valuable guidelines are presented for assessing health and quality of life in program evaluation, monitoring of health policy, clinical trials, and health services research. Each chapter contributes to the development and application of health and quality of life outcomes to the major health decisions in the 1990s, including preventing disease and promoting health, assessing the costs and benefits of technology, and improving

health care access.

"A balanced and objective in-depth examination. Patrick and Erickson present the state-of-the-art in attempting to meaningfully link quality-of-life (health) measures to the allocation of health care resources. The value of the book lies in its objectively chronicling the successes, failures, and limitations in attempting to measure health-related values for policy making purposes." --Choice "The health resource allocation strategy provides a ranking mechanism that can be used by policy makers not only at the federal level, but also at the local level. It is appropriate for all agencies making resource allocation decisions—a public health department, a community-based organization providing health care, a large community hospital. Further, anyone wanting to learn cost-utility analysis or needing a primer for calculating a common basis for program comparison could use this book. It is a very thorough, and likely the first, comprehensive treatment of the subject of health care resource allocation using the common metric of cost per healthy life year gained....An important book for the evaluation shelf, one that will reward careful reading, as well as frequent consultation. --Robin D. Gorsky, PhD, University of New Hampshire, Durham, Inquiry "A well-documented explanation of the Health Resource Allocation Strategy which should interest the intended audience of health decision makers, health services professionals and clinical researchers, and students in public health and the social and clinical sciences....[The authors'] open confrontation of controversial matters—such as limiting freedom of choice, rationing, and methods for putting a dollar value on health programs—and their thoughtful proposal for an approach to a solution for the health care crisis make this book a valuable contribution." --John E. Ware, Jr., PhD, and Susan D. Keller, PhD, American Journal of Preventive Medicine "This is a wonderful book. It takes the reader past the mechanics of performing economic evaluations, to demonstrating why these evaluations are important. An excellent, well-written book." --Patrick Mauldin, PhD, Emory University "A comprehensive assessment of the state of the art in QOL assessment. I haven't seen anything else available with such breadth." --Steven M. Albert, Ph.D., Columbia University "In conclusion, the authors have achieved a great deal of what they set out to accomplish with this book. Indeed, they have provided a single, excellent reference source for an important family of techniques that have been quite useful in evaluating alternative medical care interventions but the adoption of which—for many reasons—has been perhaps slower in the health policy context than some would prefer." --Medical Decision Making About the Author Donald L. Patrick, Professor of Health Services, University of Washington. Pennifer Erickson, Chief, Clearinghouse on Health Indexes, National Center for Health Statistics.