Anticorruption in the Health Sector

Strategies for Transparency and Accountability

Edited by Taryn Vian, William D. Savedoff and Harald Mathisen

Corruption is a serious problem for both rich and poor countries, threatening international development and eroding confidence in governments. In the health sector, corruption is literally a matter of life and death: facilities crumble when repair funds are embezzled; fake drugs flood the market with corrupt regulators managing supply, and doctors extorting under-the-table payments from patients fail to provide needed care. Most major development organizations have rewritten their anticorruption strategies in the last five years, hinting that reform is within reach. But these strategies pay little attention to incentives and capacity at the sector level. Those preparing to fight corruption in the health sector have very few resources to guide them until now.

"Stamping out corruption in health care is a matter of life and death. This timely research shows the need for transparency and accountability in health care and offers sensitive, practical suggestions to address the problem. Governments and providers should take note: the price of corruption in healthcare is paid for in human suffering."

-Huguette Labelle, Chair, Transparency International, the global civil society organisation leading the fight against corruption

"Provides a breadth of interesting and informative essays on the role of corruption in health care delivery in developing countries, and the strategies that have been tested to reverse corruption and thereby increase overall funding for publicly provided health care. It is an invaluable book for anyone who wants to understand the nature of corruption in health care delivery systems."

-Maureen Lewis, Economic Advisor, Research Department, World Bank

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