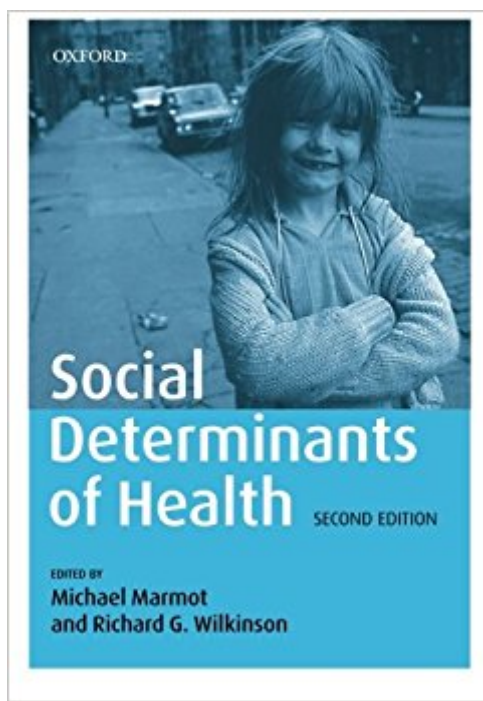


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Social Determinants Of Health



Synopsis

Social Determinants of Health, 2E gives an authoritative overview of the social and economic factors which are known to be the most powerful determinants of population health in modern societies. Written by acknowledged experts in each field, it provides accessible summaries of the scientific justification for isolating different aspects of social and economic life as the primary determinants of a population's health. The new edition takes account of the most recent research and also includes additional chapters on ethnicity and health, sexual behaviors, the elderly, housing and neighborhoods. Recognition of the power of socioeconomic factors as determinants of health came initially from research on health inequalities. This has led to a view of health as not simply about individual behavior or exposure to risk, but how the socially and economically structured way of life of a population shapes its health. Thus exercise and accidents as much about a society's transport system as about individual decisions; and the nation's diet involves agriculture, food manufacture, retailing, and personal incomes as much as individual choice. But a major new element in the picture we have developed is the importance of the social, or psycho-social, environment to health. For example, health in the workplace for most employees - certainly for office workers - is less a matter of exposure to physical health hazards as of the social environment, of how supportive it is, whether people have control over their work, whether their jobs are secure. A similar picture emerges in other areas ranging from the health importance of the emotional environment in early childhood to the need for more socially cohesive communities. Social Determinants of Health, 2E should be read by those interested in the wellbeing of modern societies. It is a must for public health professionals, for health promotion specialists, and for people working in the many fields of public policy which we now know make such an important contribution to health.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Marmot and Wilkinson do a thorough, comprehensive job of exploring the emerging field of how social inequalities affect the health of populations. This is a great resource both for public health professionals and for those who are looking for an accessible way to be introduced to the topic. The second chapter alone - a detailed description of the physiological mechanisms by which psychosocial stress is translated to worse health outcomes - is worth the price. Marmot and Wilkinson's work has significance far beyond the realm of public health, and should be read by policy-makers of all ideological stripes.

This book is written in a style that makes it hard to read, even for a textbook. It contains lots of important information and several great chapters, but if you are careful you'll fall asleep every 15 minutes.

This is my school textbook and I am able to read it on multiple devices, including my plain kindle. That is super helpful to be able to read it like a regular book. I also like the fact I can use the search functions easily in my kindle app on the computer. I will add that I had to take this class for my degree, but found the writing style to be very technical and personally a little over my head at times. But I did get an A in the class, and I do think having this book available to me on my kindle devices really helped since I could perform searches, read anywhere that was comfortable and not lug around a book.

This is a great introductory book on the public health challenges in the U.S. today. I am a medical student with an interest in public health, and I read this book in college. I recommend it for anyone looking for a quick, easy to read introduction into the main barriers to health care.

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