The Cure in the Code: How 20th Century Law is Undermining 21st Century Medicine

Peter W. Huber
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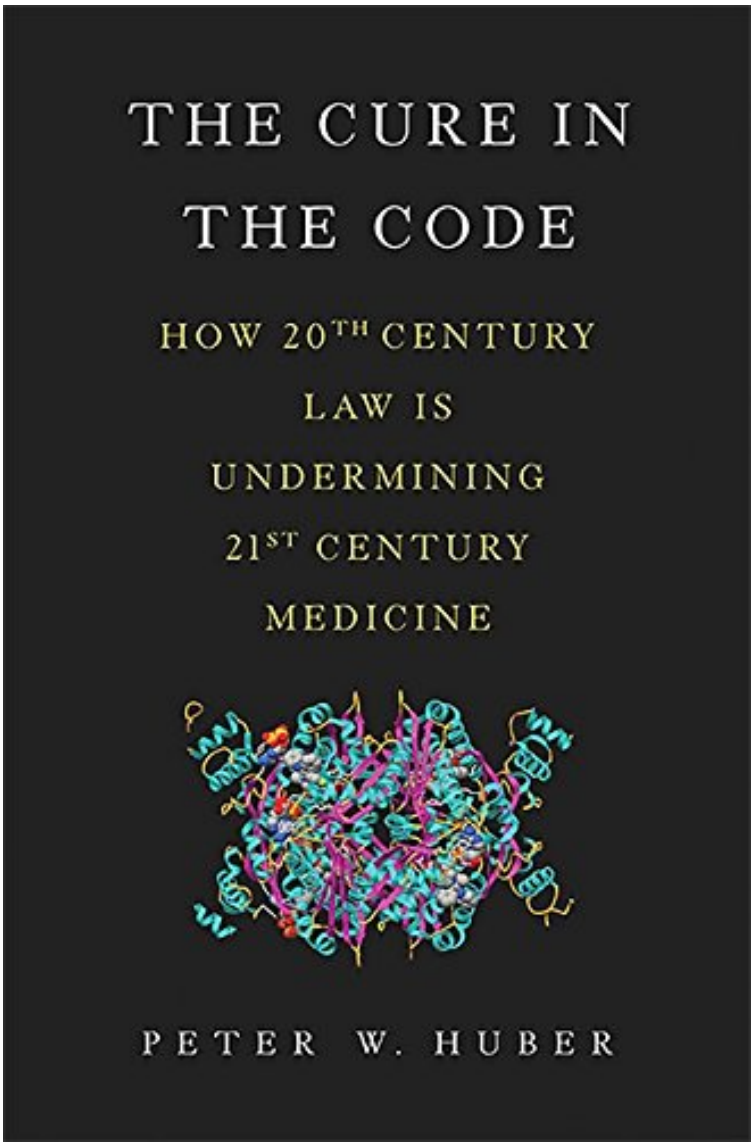

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Peter W. Huber : The Cure in the Code: How 20th Century Law is Undermining 21st Century Medicine before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cure in the Code: How 20th Century Law is Undermining 21st Century Medicine:

23 of 24 people found the following review helpful. life and deathBy John ThorneThis is a well-written and important

book on the future of medicine and regulation of medicine. Don't confuse it with the debates on the Affordable Care Act; it's about the regulatory impediments to investment in and approval of new medicines. Like Huber's earlier books, this one has lots of interesting stories (some funny, many tragic) to make the broader points concrete and memorable. The opening chapter is as tightly written and compelling as Dawkins's Selfish Gene.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A must read for every U.S. citizen. Clear, concise and riveting synthesis of our current health care dilemmaBy Lynn M. BabingtonThe author provides a succinct and easily understood synthesis of recent breakthroughs in scientific technologies and capabilities to illustrate the unprecedented opportunity we now have to reduce human suffering and dramatically improve health of humans worldwide. He then summarizes current U.S. legislation that guides the FDA regulatory process for development of novel therapeutics, articulates how the regulations were appropriate when originally written, and then makes a compelling argument to illustrate how the current regulations are actually impeding progress. More important and more impressive - he provides thoughtful and provocative solutions to facilitate and accelerate progress.A must read for everyone in the health care industry, especially anyone interested in how to facilitate development of novel therapeutics for currently untreatable diseases.Actually, this is a must read for every U.S. citizen as it is only through reform of our outdated regulatory laws that the potential of modern scientific understanding can be unleashed and fully realized.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.) But it is a very good foundation and overview of the strides that are being ...By Vincent A. RoscelliIt's a bit dated now. (Written in 2013 and this is a very fast evolving field.)But it is a very good foundation and overview of the strides that are being made in medical research on multiple levels and in multiple areas. And the multiple mismatches between enormous potential of the scientific breakthroughs of the last decade.Huber makes a powerful case that current FDA approval process is a significant constraint to progress.Very clearly written.

Never before have two revolutions with so much potential to save and prolong human life occurred simultaneously. The converging, synergistic power of the biochemical and digital revolutions now allows us to read every letter of life's code, create precisely targeted drugs to control it, and tailor their use to individual patients. Cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's and countless other killers can be vanquishedif we make full use of the tools of modern drug design and allow doctors the use of modern data gathering and analytical tools when prescribing drugs to their patients.But Washington stands in the way, clinging to outdated drug-approval protocols developed decades ago during medicine's long battle with the infectious epidemics of the past. Peter Huber, an expert in science, technology, and public policy, demonstrates why Washington's one-size-fits-all drug policies can't deal with diseases rooted in the complex molecular diversity of human bodies. Washington is ill-equipped to handle the torrents of data that now propel the advance of molecular medicine and is reluctant to embrace the statistical methods of the digital age that can. Obsolete economic policies, often rationalized as cost-saving measures, stifle innovation and suppress investment in the medicine that can provide the best cures at the lowest cost.In the 1980s, an AIDS diagnosis was a death sentence, until the FDA loosened its throttling grip and began streamlining and accelerating approval of life-saving drugs. The Cure in the Code shows patients, doctors, investors, and policy makers what we must now do to capture the full life-saving and cost-saving potential of the revolution in molecular medicine. America has to choose. At stake for America is the power to lead the world in mastering the most free, fecund, competitive, dynamic, and intelligent natural resource on the planetthe molecular code that spawns human life and controls our health.

From Publishers WeeklyDigital and biochemical revolutions have made it possible to decode what ails us and help determine the remedyif only Washington and the FDA would get out of the wayargues Huber, a lawyer and senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation, in this provocative, optimistic look at modern medicine. He envisions a free-market ideology for drug development and usage that, thanks to digital technology, will cheaply design new drugs and predict how well they perform and on whom. But Huber, who popularized the term junk science with his 1991 book Galileo's Revenge: Junk Science in the Courtroom, believes Washington nudges doctors away from the Hippocratic oath to prescribe regimens for the good of my patients and toward veterinarian ethicsthe sick dog's treatment is determined by the master's willingness to pay. There's no middle ground in the war between the 20th and 21st century medicine, Huber believeswe must choose between medicine that deals with biochemical reality or is favored by crowd doctors who cling to the view that if they scrutinize, track, certify, and choreograph things just right, they can deliver better medicine to all from afar. Huber's challenge is sure to spark controversy as the U.S. adapts to the Affordable Care Act. (Nov.)From BooklistOur ability to read the genetic code heralds a transformation of modern medicine. Yet many potential medical miracles remain throttled. Antiquated and stifling regulations and policies presently handcuff the evolution of molecular medicine. Huber, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, pleads for reforming the drug licensing system and advocates a culture of discovery and creativity that is willing to take risks and invest patiently in the future. He cites Herceptin for breast cancer, Gleevec for chronic myelogenous leukemia, and a cocktail of antiviral agents for HIV as examples of the might of molecular medicine. He blames a muddled and often self-contradictory legal regimewhich includes federal government agencies (notably the FDA), insurance company guidelines, judges, and trial lawyersfor suffocating the advancement of molecular science. Presently, the development

of new drugs and vaccines is often a dawdling, more expensive than necessary, and sometimes volatile process. Although Hubers discussion of the topic is at times dense, his ardor for invigorating pharmaceutical progress is apparent on every page of this scholarly work. --Tony Miksanek [An] urgent, compelling account of how 21st-century medicine is being hampered by a regulatory regime built for the science of the 20th century.Wall Street Journal