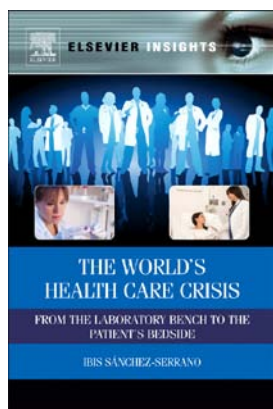


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New Research Reveals the Roots of the Global Health Care Crisis



(Waltham, MA, November 15th, 2011) – Finding effective ways to provide and pay for health care, in particular for medicines, is no longer a problem exclusive to the less developed countries but is also a growing challenge in the world's richest countries. In his new book [The World's Health Care Crisis: From the Laboratory Bench to the Patient's Bedside](#) (Elsevier, 2011), Panamanian researcher Ibis Sánchez-Serrano provides concrete solutions that will improve access to affordable medicines throughout the world.

After six years of independent research, Sánchez-Serrano concluded that the biggest obstacle is not a lack of medical insurance but a lack of access to effective and appropriate medicines. Lack of access to medications is the common denominator in all the nations of the world, regardless of whether their health care systems are public or private. His book focuses on the role played by the bio-pharmaceutical industry in the global health crisis.

Sánchez-Serrano points out that "health care reform must begin with reform in the way in which medicines are created and, therefore, priced, which requires a series of improvements at the pharmaceutical research and development (R&D) level ."

His research is based on the analysis of thousands of documented sources and dozens of interviews with world leaders in health care, the bio-pharmaceutical industry, investors, regulators, bankers, scientists, academics, and philanthropists in the United States and the European Union.

Sánchez-Serrano's book grew out of a research article published in the highly regarded *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery*. That article described the development, in record time and without the usual cost for the pharmaceutical industry, of the anti-cancer drug Velcade (Proscript / Millennium Pharmaceuticals).

Generous support from a Swiss patron, not related to the pharmaceutical industry or politics, allowed Sánchez-Serrano to investigate, in depth and objectively, the health care systems of the United States, Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa, Canada and Australia, as well as biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries.

Ibis Sánchez-Serrano was born in the city of Santiago de Veraguas, Panama, and trained in some of the world's leading academic centers, including Tufts, Harvard, and the Sloan School of Management of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, among others. Sánchez-Serrano will soon begin a series of lectures and conferences around the world presenting the results of his research. For more information visit: ibissanchezserrano.com.

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