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FEATURES

What System? By Doug McInnis 28

No one ever sat down and designed the U.S. health-care “system.” It simply evolved, in bits and pieces. As it now threatens to crack under its own weight, a DMS faculty member is a leading proponent of the need to stop tinkering and rethink things—from a “microsystem” perspective.

The Anatomy of an Epidemic By Laura Stephenson Carter 36

June 2006 marks the 25th anniversary of the first published report about AIDS—a paper coauthored by a DMS alumnus. In the quarter of a century since then, the disease has swept the globe and killed 25 million people.

The Sick Shriners By Roger P. Smith, Ph.D., and Nicholas Jacobs, Ph.D. 44

Hundreds of Shriners were in town for an annual high-school all-star football game and pre-game parade. What started as a festive day, filled with miniature motorbikes and capering clowns, turned chilling as the Mary Hitchcock Emergency Room began to fill up with sick Shriners.

COVER

Dartmouth's Paul Batalden is a leading proponent of a concept called “microsystems” that might be just what the doctor ordered to cure the ailing U.S. health-care system. To learn how, see page 28. The cover photo is by Chris Milliman.



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