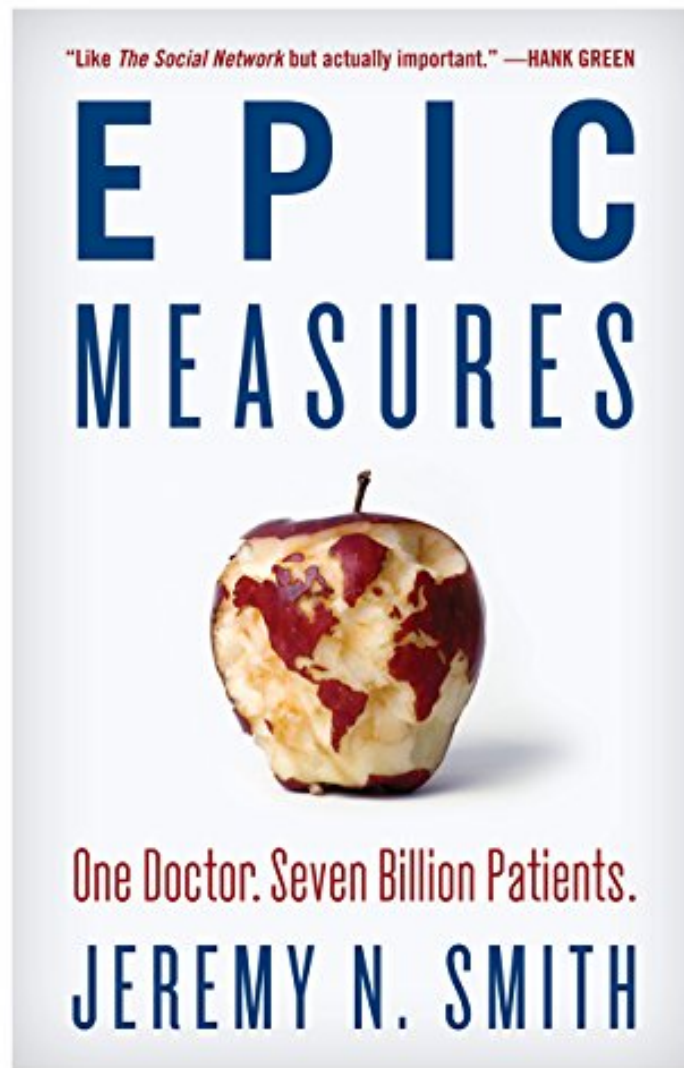


[Free] Epic Measures: One Doctor. Seven Billion Patients.

## Epic Measures: One Doctor. Seven Billion Patients.

*Jeremy N. Smith*

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**Jeremy N. Smith : Epic Measures: One Doctor. Seven Billion Patients.** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Epic Measures: One Doctor. Seven Billion Patients.:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Standing Ovation for "Epic Measues"By Susan HathawayThis book about Chris Murray, MD and his team of researchers reads like a well-written thriller. Everyone should read this book because it details how sloppy, politically driven and incorrect reporting of diseases around the world have

skewed how governments and privately funded organizations spend health care dollars. Dr. Chris Murray's vision for an all encompassing, world standard for disease reporting and his monumental drive to bring truth to health care funding world-wide is Nobel Peace Prize in medicine worthy. Do not think for a second this is "dry" reading. This book will change how you think about your health and make you grateful for intelligent visionaries like Dr. Murray and the author, Jeremy N. Smith, who makes fascinating reading out of what could have been an overwhelming life project just too complicated to tell. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. overview of global health By Andy This book is an account of Dr Christopher Murray and his leadership in developing the Global Burden of Disease. I thought it was interesting, but could have covered the same ground as a long magazine article or kindle single. It was a little too focused on one man and not enough on everything else. The anecdotes and stories about Murray were not quite colorful enough to justify a full book on him. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Great Read with One Big Omission By Paul of Whidbey Christopher Murray's work at Harvard, WHO, and now IHME (UW-Seattle) on the global burden of disease deserves a well-written, popular treatment like this. Smith's writing and sequencing make for a fine, fast, informative read. Substantively, though, *Epic Measures* is missing a key story within the integrated "burden of disease" project: how to get disability and death on the same page of value so that the Disability Adjusted Life Year (DALY) unit Murray and colleagues use makes sense as a proper way to see the relative values of living longer and living with better quality of life. That large omission noted, however, this is a fascinating book.

Moneyball meets medicine in this remarkable chronicle of one of the greatest scientific quests of our time: the groundbreaking program to answer the most essential question for humanity: how do we live and die? and the visionary mastermind behind it. Medical doctor and economist Christopher Murray began the Global Burden of Disease studies to gain a truer understanding of how we live and how we die. While it is one of the largest scientific projects ever attempted as breathtaking as the first moon landing or the Human Genome Project the questions it answers are meaningful for every one of us: What are the world's health problems? Who do they hurt? How much? Where? Why? Murray argues that the ideal existence isn't simply the longest but the one lived well and with the least illness. Until we can accurately measure how people live and die, we cannot understand what makes us sick or do much to improve it. Challenging the accepted wisdom of the WHO and the UN, the charismatic and controversial health maverick has made enemies and some influential friends, including Bill Gates who gave Murray a \$100 million grant. In *Epic Measures*, journalist Jeremy N. Smith offers an intimate look at Murray and his groundbreaking work. From ranking countries' healthcare systems (the U.S. is 37th) to unearthing the shocking reality that world governments are funding developing countries at only 30% of the potential maximum efficiency when it comes to health, *Epic Measures* introduces a visionary leader whose unwavering determination to improve global health standards has already changed the way the world addresses issues of health and wellness, sets policy, and distributes funding.

*Epic Measures* is a fantastic read. (Bill Gates) Jeremy Smith's engaging story of a man obsessed with the numbers, and the mortal dramas they tell, reads like a novel and is better than any textbook or survey of this planet's health. (Paul Farmer, Co-Founder of Partners In Health and Co-Chair of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School) *Epic Measures* is a story of people who believed that what needed to be done could be done. It's exciting, well-crafted, and inspirational. Like *The Social Network* but actually important. Saving a million lives isn't cool. You know what's cool? Saving a billion lives. (Hank Green, co-creator and co-host of *Crash Course* and *SciShow*) Jeremy Smith tells an inspiring story of how a simple idea, conceived logically and pursued with grit, can greatly improve the human condition. (Edward O. Wilson, University Professor Emeritus, Harvard University) This book is a crash course in global health mixed with a thriller and a biography. And my goodness, what a made-for-Hollywood character at its core: a brilliant but bristly scientist out to revolutionize the way we conceive healthcare. (A. J. Jacobs, author of *Drop Dead Healthy* and *The Year of Living Biblically*) Reading *Epic Measures* is like spending time with Chris Murray: an intense intellectual treat, the sense of participating in something important, and the thrill of a riveting adventure. For more realism, I recommend reading this book while biking up or skiing down a terrifyingly steep mountain slope. (Gary King, Director of the Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University) Bold, brash, and brilliant. In *Epic Measures*, Jeremy Smith tells a compelling story of the man who led a group of like-minded collaborators, inspired a legion of followers, irritated the establishment, and changed the way the world thinks about health and disease. (Harvey V. Fineberg, President, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation) The Global Burden of Disease Study is not only an epic dataset, but also an epic human story. Through fine reporting and graceful writing, Jeremy Smith reveals the high-stakes story behind the numbers that are transforming global health. (Michelle Nijhuis, co-editor of *The Science Writers Handbook*) Remarkably entertaining... A giant compilation of who knew? (Tina Rosenberg, *The New York Times* Opinionator) In public health it is said that what is measured gets done. But what if the measurements were all wrong? This book should be mandatory reading. While others on the beach may have been reading mysteries, I was turning the pages of a true thriller. (Richard E. Besser, M.D., Chief Health and Medical

Editor, ABC News) We've all heard about the rise of Big Data and how it will have big effects. Well, this is the ultimate Big Data project and it could indeed save lives and money—big time! (Fareed Zakaria, CNN) A thumping narrative about trends shaping the future. (Aaron Shulman, *The Los Angeles Times*) An inspirational tale for everyone. (Publishers Weekly) A fascinating account of a charismatic visionary. (Kirkus) A page-turner that could radically change the way you view health. (Joy Portella, President, Minerva Strategies) From the Back Cover Moneyball meets medicine in this remarkable chronicle of one of the greatest scientific quests of our time and the visionary mastermind behind it. Medical doctor and economist Christopher Murray began the Global Burden of Disease study to gain a truer understanding of how we live and how we die. While it is one of the largest scientific projects ever attempted as breathtaking as the first moon landing or the Human Genome Project the questions it answers are meaningful for every one of us: What are the world's health problems? Who do they hurt? How much? Where? Why? Murray argues that the ideal existence isn't simply the longest, but the one lived well and with the least illness. Until we can accurately measure global health issues, we cannot understand what makes us sick or do much to improve it. Challenging the accepted wisdom of the WHO and the UN, the charismatic and controversial health maverick has made enemies as well as some influential friends, including Bill Gates who gave Murray a \$100 million grant. Told with novelistic verve by acclaimed journalist Jeremy N. Smith, the story of Murray's lifelong determination to understand how we live and die encompasses wars and famines, presidents and activists, billionaires and billions of people worldwide living in poverty. It shows the human side of scientific revolutions and of revolutionary scientists—their breakthroughs and setbacks, their genius and their flaws, their champions and their critics—as they strive to bring the news of their findings to the world. This transformational effort is far from over, but the story of its genesis and impact is already an epic tale. About the Author Jeremy N. Smith has written for the *Atlantic*, *Discover*, and the *New York Times*, among many other publications, and has been featured by CNN, NPR, and *Wired*. His first book, *Growing a Garden City*, was one of *Booklist's* top ten books on the environment for 2011. Born and raised in Evanston, Illinois, he is a graduate of Harvard College and the University of Montana. He lives in Missoula, Montana, with his wife and daughter.