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 **Health and the developing world.**Author(s) : [BRYANT, J.](#)Book : [Health and the developing world](#). 1969 pp.xxvii + 345 pp.

Abstract : This book originated from a collaborative study initiated jointly by the Rockefeller Foundation and the U.S. Agency for International Development and conducted by a team of which the author was a member and a rapporteur.

In the foreword to the book, Dr. John WEIR of the Rockefeller Foundation points out the aim of this study carried out in several countries within a wide cultural range (Colombia, Jamaica, Malawi, Senegal, Thailand) was to collect some background information and to provide guidelines for health planners.

The book starts with a few touching case studies of persons caught up in the cycle of poverty, ignorance and disease in tropical countries.

It then shows the diversity of health problems on a world scale in relation to stages of socio-economic development and reviews the ways in which these are (or are not!) being solved. A number of statistical data quoted in this part are revealing and indicate the care with which the relevant information has been gathered. The chapter on the role of health in the process of development dwells on the survival of people and on the phenomenon of population growth: it also discusses the conflict between needs and resources of national health planning.

The author deals with the concept of the health team and its functions and with the consideration of the pattern of education at all levels of medical care in different countries and to the part to be played by international and other organizations. The final thoughtful chapter considers many facets of the dilemma of how to provide effective health care for all the members of societies in the painful transition from social and economic imbalance due to limited resources.

In the long chain of concepts, techniques, decisions and events that influence human advance there are many weak links and the author while unable to offer any simple solutions courageously and eloquently states the case and searches for possible answers. He believes that a better understanding of the new role and increased responsibilities of medical auxiliaries, an improved system of management and a revised type of professional training may speed up the solution of some most pressing health problems which are the symptom of the present perplexing and dangerous phase in the development of the world.

The text is a happy blend of meaningful communication of factual data and a sensitive and compassionate and compellingly expressed awareness of human needs. The book is produced and charmingly illustrated by hand-printed linocuts of a Thai artist. [This book is of exceptional interest not only to the medical profession but also to economists, sociologists, administrators and politicians concerned with the widening gap between the rich and the poor nations. It shows how in spite of phenomenal advances of medical science we are unable to provide the simplest measures of health protection to vast numbers of underprivileged human beings.

It also stresses the role of community health in the social and economic development. It may be recommended as a companion volume to the recent Pearson Report (PEARSON (Chairman). *Partners in development* Report of the Commission on International Development, 1969. London: Pall Mall Press.) This voluminous report dealt with various aspects of aid for tropical countries. It concentrated mainly on economic aspects of development and underestimated the role of health of the community, drawing adverse comments from the public health experts (*Lancet*, 1970, v. 1, 1271) *Chwatt*.

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Broader term(s) : Homo, Hominidae, primates, mammals, vertebrates, Chordata, eukaryotes, Andean Group, Developing Countries, Latin America, America, South Countries, Caribbean Community, Commonwealth of Nations, Greater Antilles, A Caribbean, Threshold Countries, Anglophone Africa, Africa, East Africa, Africa Sou Least Developed Countries, SADC Countries, Francophone Africa, West Africa, AF ASEAN Countries, South East Asia, Asia, British Isles, Western Europe, Europe, Dev Countries, European Union Countries, OECD Countries

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universe, as required by the laws of thermodynamics, changes activity monitoring, which has a simple and obvious physical meaning.

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