Through a comparative global study of countries from all continents representing a diversity of health, legal, political, and economic systems, this book explores the role of health rights to advance greater equality through access to health care. Does pursuing a right to health care promote equality, or does it in fact advance the opposite result? Does inserting the idea of “the right to health” into health systems allow the reinsertion of public values into systems that are undergoing privatization? Or does it allow for private claims to be rearticulated as “rights,” in a way that actually reinforces inequality? This volume includes studies from countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Canada, the Netherlands, China, and Nigeria, as well as authors with expertise regarding both the legal and health systems of their countries, making this a seminal study that allows readers to see the differing role of rights in various health systems.

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The Right to Health at the Public/Private Divide

A GLOBAL COMPARATIVE STUDY

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some points in common. One is the constitutional dimension of the national legal order being tested and challenged by international law and/or EU law and how the power of lawmaking is fragmented between several constitutional actors. Another point is the possibility for the individual to be able to access and be part of the realization of their stated rights.

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