

Peer Review

Review of: "Health Transformation Through Prevention Requires Progress Metrics for Value Creation"

Benjamin Niestroj¹

1. Fachhochschule für Oekonomie und Management (FOM), Germany

Review Summary:

Michael Friebe's article presents a compelling and well-argued case for rethinking the modern healthcare paradigm by shifting from reactive, intervention-focused care to proactive, prevention-based models. The paper is both timely and thought-provoking, offering a holistic exploration of the systemic, economic, and cultural barriers to meaningful healthcare transformation. It emphasizes the importance of metrics, stakeholder alignment, and digital innovation as catalysts for sustainable change.

Strengths:

Clear Problem Identification

Friebe articulates the flaws in the current **fee-for-service model** with clarity and depth. He exposes the paradox of a healthcare system that profits from illness while neglecting proactive wellness—a critical insight that underpins the need for transformation.

Multi-Stakeholder Perspective

One of the article's standout features is its balanced analysis of stakeholder interests—from clinicians to policymakers to patients. It reveals how misaligned incentives and conflicting goals impede innovation and resist systemic reform.

✓ *Introduction of the Healthcare Innovator's Dilemma*

By adapting Clayton Christensen's theory of the “**Innovator's Dilemma**” to healthcare, Friebe offers a novel and intellectually rich framework. This helps contextualize why disruption in healthcare is particularly slow and complex, despite the availability of advanced technologies.

✓ *Focus on Metrics and Value*

The article's emphasis on the need for **meaningful progress and value metrics** is well-placed. It connects the success of prevention not just to health outcomes, but to how well its benefits can be measured, communicated, and monetized—especially important for driving investment and adoption.

✓ *Global & Equity Lens*

Friebe expands the discussion to include **low-income and underserved regions**, suggesting that affordable prevention tools may gain traction more quickly where traditional healthcare is lacking—a fresh and optimistic angle. His mention of **reverse innovation** is particularly insightful.

Areas for Improvement:

! *Heavy Thematic Load*

While comprehensive, the article attempts to cover a vast range of themes—from health economics and policy to organizational behavior and digital innovation. This breadth can dilute focus and might benefit from a more streamlined narrative or modular structure.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.