

“ANOTHER ISSUE FOR ITALIAN OFFICIALS IS THAT PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN HEALTH CARE HAS COME TO PRIORITIZE COST AND COMPLIANCE OVER INNOVATION (PATRUCCO ET AL., 2016). THERE HAS BEEN A SEVERE LACK OF IDENTIFYING GOVERNANCE SOLUTIONS THAT COULD TRANSFORM PROCUREMENT INTO A MORE STRATEGIC PROCESS—SPECIFICALLY, TO STIMULATE INNOVATION, COORDINATION, AND EVIDENCE BASED DECISION-MAKING. THE PERCEPTION THAT EFFORTS TO PREVENT CORRUPTION IN CONTRACTING HAVE SWUNG SO FAR THAT BUREAUCRATIC CULTURES AND THE OVERLAPPING AND FRAGMENTED NATURE OF LEGAL CONTROLS STIFLE ANY ATTEMPT AT CONTRACTING INNOVATION (MEEHAN ET AL., 2016). THE RESULT IS A FORMAL AND INFORMAL PUBLIC PROCUREMENT INSTITUTION THAT DOES NOT GIVE ADEQUATE ATTENTION TO ISSUES OF LONG-TERM RISK IN SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTIONS, BUSINESS CONTINUITY CONCERNS, OR PRODUCT INTEGRATION—WHICH COULD BETTER BUFFER THE PUBLIC SECTOR TO SURGES IN DEMAND.”

Veronica Vecchi, Niccolò Cusumano and Eric J. Boyer

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