



Citizens' Council on Health Care

Health Freedom Minute

October 11, 2010

Physician Autonomy or Groupthink?

Welcome to the Health Freedom Minute. This is Twila Brase president of Citizens' Council on Health Care.

The Wall Street Journal published a commentary by Dr. Saul Greenfield. Twenty five years ago, his hospital's head of surgery took the stage and told he and other newly minted doctors, "You can't practice medicine by committee."

Dr. Greenfield writes, "He was warning against groupthink and telling us that patients often present challenges that cannot be solved by easily consulted algorithms."

Today, physician autonomy—and the role of doctor as patient advocate—is under attack. Medicare, Congress, and ObamaCare are pushing doctors to conform to one-size-fits-all government-issued treatment protocols. Dr. Greenfield warns, "uniformity of practice is a nonsensical goal that fails to allow for differing expression of disease states."

Who's your doctor listening to?

Find us at healthfreedomminute.net.

*The Health Freedom Minute is heard weekdays
in Minnesota at 7:03 a.m., 11:03 a.m., 2:03 p.m.
and 5:03 p.m. on WWTC AM1280 The Patriot.*