



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

Health Freedom Minute

November 25, 2022

Are Electronic Health Records Controlling Your Doctors?

According to a 2014 study, “Electronic health records [EHRs] change the landscape of patient data sharing and privacy by increasing the amount of information collected and stored and the number of potential recipients.” One doctor calls EHRs “command and control systems” through which every medical decision must pass. This means that the corporate health care system can use the computer to limit your care.

Corporations can also change how doctors interact with the computer to discourage certain treatments. Graying out treatment options, or putting them lower on the list, can cause doctors not to choose them. These actions, known as “nudging” the doctor, can mean the EHR decides your care, not the doctor.

“Moving beyond medical errors: How EHRs are ‘nudging’ practices to change certain behaviors,” Eli Richman, Fierce Healthcare, January 28, 2019: <https://bit.ly/3NWAvx5>

“Designing a Patient-Centered User Interface for Access Decisions about EHR Data: Implications from Patient Interviews,” Elly Caine et al, Journal of General Internal Medicine December 2014: <https://bit.ly/3htgj9Y>

Big Brother in the Exam Room: The Dangerous Truth about Electronic Health Records, Twila Brase, (Beavers Pond Press, 2018): <http://www.BigBrotherintheExamRoom.com>

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President and Co-founder
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*The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 48 states:
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