



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

# Health Freedom Minute

August 16, 2019

## **Medicare for All Will Shutter Hospitals**

How would Medicaid-for-All impact hospitals across America? Rural hospitals are already closing due to low Medicare payments, Obamacare regulations, and the federal electronic health record mandate.

Democrats differ on what will happen to hospitals. Bernie Sanders says they'll do great, but former congressman John Delaney says that paying Medicare rates for all patients will mean the end of many hospitals. Today, Medicare pays just 87% of the costs and hospitals charge more to cash-paying and insured patients.

Major hospital systems, like the Mayo Clinic, would likely survive. Others, especially rural hospitals, would probably shut their doors or become government hospitals—funded by taxpayers.

**“Medicare-for-All Opponents Claim Hospitals Would Shutter. But it Depends on Where They’re Located.”** Paige Winfield Cunningham, PowerPost, The Washington Post, August 8, 2019: <https://wapo.st/2M9UZW8>

**“Nearly a Quarter of Rural Hospitals are on the Brink of Closure,”** Alex Kacik, Modern Healthcare, February 20, 2019: <https://bit.ly/2lrakkb>

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

*The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 47 states:  
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