Hospital Replaces Physicians with Nurses

An Illinois hospital is eliminating 15 physicians and replacing them with nurse practitioners or NPs. It claims this is what patients want for “less costly care and convenient access” and that the NPs will be working with an emergency room doctor, but that doesn’t mean the doctor is physically on site.

So if you’re there facing a stroke or chest pain, a physician may be far away. Nurse practitioners, and physician assistants, PAs, who oppose the hospital’s decision have left comments on the news article, one of them saying that PA and NPs are not MDs. True. So, when you’re in the exam room, ask for credentials. Find a list of them at patienttoolbox.org.

“15 Docs Fired From Illinois Health System to Be Replaced with NPs,”
Marcia Frellick, Medscape Medical News, November 27, 2019: 
https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/921909#vp_1

“Replacing doctors with midlevels? Sometimes ‘being cheap is very expensive,’” Dr. Dina Strachan, MD, LinkedIn, December 2, 2019: 
https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/replacing-doctors-midlevels-sometimes-being-cheap-strachan-m-d-/

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

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