Better Care or Just Better Numbers?

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

A study claims that diabetics have better quality of care when treated by doctors using electronic medical records. Without learning any details about this study what are your presupposed assumptions about this term “quality of care”? Always ask for specific definitions of the term.

In this case, quality of care means patients met four of five standards of quality and four of five outcomes measures all devised by outsiders. The four care standards are a blood sugar test, kidney management, an eye examination and a vaccination against the flu. The four outcomes measures are being a non-smoker and having a certain blood sugar level, blood pressure level, and cholesterol level.

These are statistics. They say little about doctor or patient, and nothing about quality of care.

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