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End the Charity Care Charade

Charity is part of the mission of medicine. With charity comes charitability. Without it, medicine can become a cold-hearted business that doesn’t value or protect patients. We should refuse to let health plans and government destroy the ethical, charitable mission of medicine.

Even people with coverage may need charity when their health plan denies access to care. And providing charity can be less expensive than the cost of Medicaid paperwork.

After Obamacare became law, many tax-exempt hospitals sharply reduced charity care and pushed for the law’s expansion of Medicaid. But now they’re trying to justify their tax-exempt status by using inflated prices to claim huge losses to treat Medicaid patients. Congress should end this charade.