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Flying Blind; Paying Billions

Medicaid costs American taxpayers more than Medicare. Federal dollars are transferred to states as federal matching funds, but the federal government is flying blind. In 2017, federal payments to Medicaid health plans were half of all Medicaid payments. In 2016, to add accountability, the federal government said states must collect and report patient data that shows the use of medical services so payments can be audited, but no parameters were given.

Now the government’s accountability office says the federal government should also set parameters for when matching funds will be disallowed. Considering how lucrative Medicaid has become for health plans, and because of the vast expansion of Medicaid under Obamacare, this is a worthy recommendation.


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