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Big Brother on Steroids

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

The federally-funded Institute of Medicine says America needs a national system of public-health surveillance to improve prevention and treatment of widespread chronic diseases. They want the system to tap into your electronic medical records, health insurance claims data, personal health records and death records.

The IOM says the system is necessary to track the nation’s health status. But there is no health status of the nation. There is your health status and my health status. The IOM wants the system to monitor the development and progression of chronic conditions during the life time of individuals. They say “privacy issues must be addressed.” Well, that’s not enough. How about constitutional issues, patient rights, and common decency?

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