



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

Health Freedom Minute

January 13, 2012

Hospital Computer System Shuts Down

Hospitals should reconsider moving to computerize everything, especially doctor's orders. For example, on Christmas Eve the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center experienced a systemwide computer outage.

The outage lasted 14 hours at nearly all its hospitals in the region. It impacted communication, medical orders and prescriptions. Doctors and nurses were forced to revert to old-fashioned paper records for documentation and recording.

Another Pennsylvania hospital shut down last May for 12 hours due to a hardware problem. The hospitals both claims no injury to patients, but could that be true? Was no patient care compromised by the inevitable confusion and slowdown?

Sources: "Computer outage at UPMC called 'rare'," Jonathan D. Silver, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, December 24, 2011.

"Allegheny General Hospital's records system back online," Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, May 26, 2011.

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

The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 37 states: Mornings M-Th at AM1280 (The Patriot) in MN and 91.5 AM WHKC (FreedomFM) in OH, afternoons on American Family Radio, and daily on the Bott Radio Network.