



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

Health Freedom Minute

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Does Mayo Clinic Drives Up Costs?

A *New York Times* article blames Mayo Clinic for the rising cost of health care. The authors point to two proton beam cancer treatment facilities being built by Mayo Clinic. Each costs \$180 million dollars and needs special equipment in a football-sized building with concrete walls. Medicare pays \$50,000 for this therapy, double the usual cost.

But is Mayo at fault? Mayo *is* taking advantage of Medicare payments, but Congress deserves the blame. If Medicare were never created, patients with smaller pocketbooks would make cost-conscious decisions, the therapy would cost less, and the proton beam manufacturers would not charge \$180 million dollars.

Source: "[How Mayo drives up the cost of health care.](#)" Ezekiel J. Emanuel and Steven D. Pearson, *The New York Times*, January 3, 2012.

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.