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Taking Over the Doctors

America has great physicians. But things are changing. Hospitals employ 20% of practicing physicians. Despite losing $150,000 to $300,000 per doctor for the first three years, hospitals are hiring doctors. Why? Because they want to gain control over the market long-term. To see the doctor you want to see, you’ll have to go to their hospital.

But when you go, the doctor will be working for the hospital. And they will be under so-called “performance” reviews that are used to compel them to get in line with the way the hospital wants medicine practiced. Employed doctors may not be able to give charity and they are less productive. How will this impact your access to excellent care?