March 6, 2015

**Patients Want Control Over Their Medical Data**

Legislators, researchers and government officials often claim you will not care if they take, store, use or share your medical data as long as they “de-identify” it. But this claim presumes you don’t own your data once your name and certain identifiers are stripped off. It also presumes your data is public property for public use and therefore your consent is not necessary.

But a 2007 survey of almost 2,400 people found that “respondents were less preoccupied with whether researchers knew who they were than with knowing what was happening to their medial information.” In fact, “81% were not happy to have researchers parsing even so-called de-identified health data without their consent.” Exactly right.

“TRUST ME, I'm a Medical Researcher: Scientists can no longer guarantee patients' privacy. They’re looking for new ways to build trust,” Jennifer Couzin-Frankel, SCIENCE, January 30, 2015 (corrected February 2, 2015)

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

The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 40 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.