April 29, 2013

Medicare ACO Explained

What is Obamacare’s ACO? The Accountable Care Organization is a contractual merger of hospitals and doctors for Medicare patients. ACOs agree to manage all the care of 5,000 Medicare recipients for at least three years. Medicare pays ACOs a set rate no matter how many patients need care or how often. If the ACO fails to meet certain benchmarks, they will be financially penalized.

In short, ACOs bear financial risk, becoming insurance companies of a sort. Patients are allowed to seek care outside the ACO, but unless they sign a form to refuse data sharing, ACOs will track them wherever they go.


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.