April 4, 2013

Whoops! We Were Wrong!

Seven years ago, researchers said adoption of electronic medical records would save the U.S. more than $81 billion every year. In 2009, Congress mandated electronic medical records.¹ But now the same researchers say the technology’s impact on efficiency and safety are mixed and health care expenditures have grown by $800 billion each year. That’s a 10 fold error.

The researchers blame doctors for failing to reengineer the care of patients. They want doctors to treat patients according to directives issued by the record system. Companies that manufacture the record systems funded the first study and have profited handsomely from the mandate.


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

¹ The mandate is a quasi-mandate. Any doctor, clinic, hospital or other health care professional who chooses not to buy and use electronic medical records by 2015 will see a cut in Medicare payments starting in 2015 (HITECH Act/ARRA 2009/“stimulus bill).