May 15, 2015

Precision Medicine May Not Be So Precise

Precision medicine is genetic medicine. But some researchers say the precision tests that are used to match cancer patients with medicines to treat their tumors could lead to half of the patients getting the wrong treatment. That’s because the tests only analyze the DNA of the tumor, not the DNA of the patient. About a third of the genetic mutations in the tumor were also found in the patient’s normal DNA.

Thus, a medication for those tumor mutations would do nothing to treat the patient’s cancer. A different mutation would have to be found and a different medication used. As one cancer specialist told The Wall Street Journal, “We cannot have precision medicine without precision genomics.”


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

The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 41 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.