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Are Doctors no Longer in Your Corner

Doctors who become employees lose autonomy. They are treated as underlings by supervisors. One physician says her biggest challenge is “how to handle nonphysician high school grads bossing [her] around when they function as [her] ‘superiors’ in [her] employer’s organization.” Another says physicians are targeted if they get in the way of the hospital’s agenda.

Your care could soon be affected by hospitals that create Accountable Care Organizations filled with physician employees. Doctors say they are ethically bound to patients due to their oath and their license, but hospitals say, “No, you’re employed here, and what we say goes.” So tell me, what is health care when your doctor is no longer in your corner?