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NY Gets Direct Access to Patient Medical Records

Welcome to the Health Freedom Minute. This is Twila Brase, president of Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom.

Health officials in New York will soon tap directly into patient medical records.

Yesterday, a medical records database, called HealtheLink, got $10 million dollars to build the data exchange. Last May, HealtheLink also received $16.1 million dollars from the Obama Administration as part of the Beacon grant program to build “a national electronic health records” system.

HealtheLink’s said the State of New York contracted with them to build “a data pipeline” between the community and the health department “to better facilitate the flow of data,” such as vaccinations, newborn genetic testing results, and surveillance of chronic disease, especially cancer.

State health officials say it will be a “model to track, monitor and report on public health information.” They really mean patients.

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Sources:
“‘HealtheLink’ Awarded $10 Million State Grant,” WBEN (930 AM – Buffalo/Niagara Falls, NY), December 6, 2010.
“HealtheLink Announces the Award of a $10 Million Grant at RPCI’ Press Release, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, December 6, 2010.
“$10 Million Awarded to HealtheLink,” Tracey Drury, Business First (Buffalo), December 6, 2010.

The Health Freedom Minute is heard weekdays in Minnesota at 7:03 a.m., 11:03 a.m., 2:03 p.m. and 5:03 p.m. on WWTC AM1280 The Patriot.