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Doctors Paid for Outcomes Not Care

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

Two health plan executives have a new approach to health reform.

According to the Star Tribune, they plan to provide “increased payments for good clinical outcomes for groups of patients rather than reimbursing doctors for each procedure they perform.”

This means doctors will be paid according to the outcomes of their patients. In short, doctors will no longer get paid for what they do. They’ll get paid for how you do. Would you be willing to get paid this way?

Outcomes depend more on patients than doctors. Outcomes depend on patient’s eating right, taking their medications, genetic tendencies, structural weaknesses, mental capacity, drug resistance and overall commitment to getting better.

What if you’re a patient whose conditions are difficult to diagnose, treat, or control? Is your doctor going to be willing to lose money because of you?

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