May 5, 2010

The Standardization Threat

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

What kind of doctor do you want? Do you want a doctor who listens? Do you want a doctor who cares? Do you want a doctor who answers your questions?

Most people do. Yet, in a 2005 federal report on health care quality, patient centeredness actually dropped. It decreased. Patients reported that they didn’t feel listened to or respected.

With the federal government poised to standardize medical practice, to dismiss the unique needs of very individual patients, how listened to will you feel? Will your needs be respected?

Yesterday, at a U of M forum, I asked the CEO of Mayo Clinic whether standardization of medical care is a threat to individualized treatment. His response to the audience was, “That could be.”

Find more information at healthfreedomminute.net.

The Health Freedom Minute is heard weekdays in Minnesota on WWTC AM1280 The Patriot