

ON AIR



Health Freedom Minute

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Prior Authorization is Very Expensive

Some claim forcing doctors to get their treatment plan prior authorized saves money. But prior authorization costs about \$35 billion each year. Practices complete about 39 authorization requests per doctor every week.

That's one for every hour of a 40-hour week for every doctor. Each request costs \$20 to \$30, yet 90 percent are approved.

Most doctors surveyed said it has caused some patients to abandon treatment, and 29 percent say some delays led to hospitalization and death. While Congress has introduced bills to stop the harm, state legislatures are passing laws. So why did Medicare just add prior authorization to Original Medicare in six states?

“What to Expect for Prior Authorization in 2026,” Shannon Firth, MedPage Today, March 27, 2026:

<https://www.medpagetoday.com/practicemanagement/reimbursement/120526>

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*The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 48 states:
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