Self-referral to limited-service hospitals:
Bad for America’s health care system!

FACT Fax

Research finds self-referral leads to more laboratory tests and higher health care costs.

Congress banned self-referral for many services, including laboratory services. But certain physicians are exploiting a loophole and self-referring patients for inpatient and outpatient laboratory services to hospitals they own.

Patients of physicians in a position to profit from referrals:
- Received 34% more laboratory services than the general Medicare population.¹
- 94% of physician-owned limited service hospitals have clinical laboratory services.²

CLOSE THE LOOPHOLE:
Make permanent the ban on physician self-referral to new limited-service hospitals.