

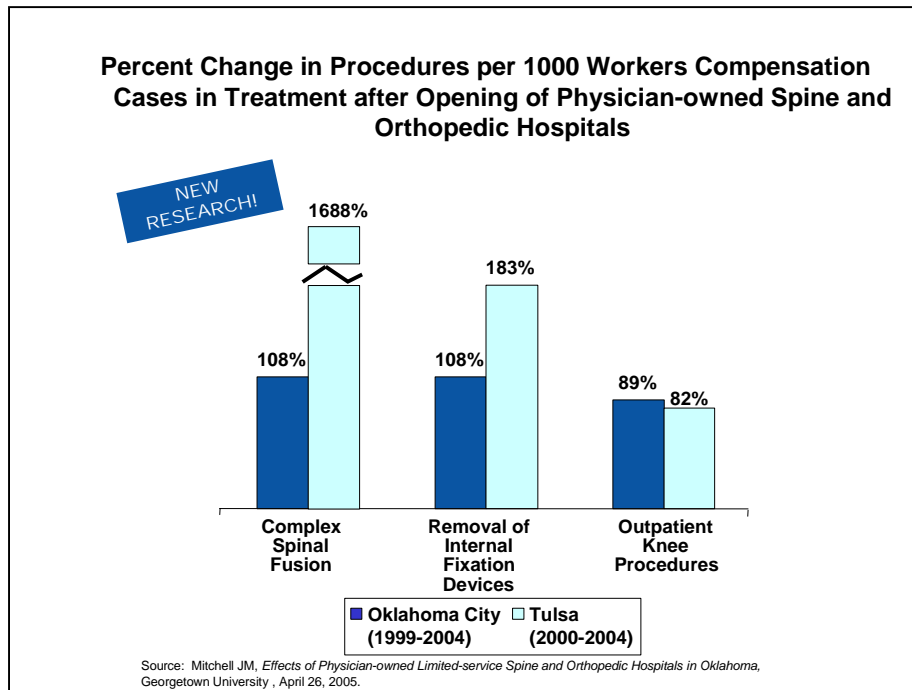


# Self-referral to limited-service hospitals: Bad for America's health care system!

## FACT Fax

### New research finds self-referral to limited-service hospitals leads to increased utilization and higher insurance costs.

A study released last week by a Georgetown University researcher examined utilization patterns for the worker's compensation population in Oklahoma City and Tulsa following the opening of three physician-owned limited service hospitals. This study found **use rates climbed by up to nearly 1700%** for common orthopedic procedures following the opening of these facilities.



By 2004, physician-owned facilities accounted for *more than 78 % of area volume* for these procedures for this population.

### CLOSE THE LOOPHOLE:

Make permanent the ban on physician self-referral to new limited-service hospitals.

