

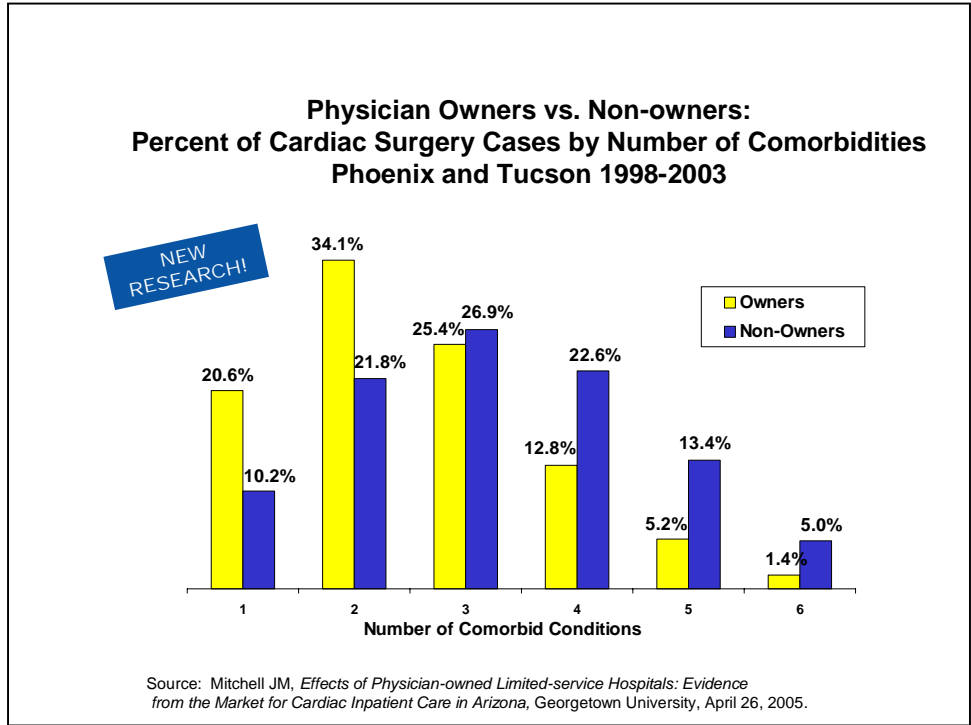


Self-referral to limited-service hospitals: Bad for America's health care system!

FACT Fax

New research finds physician-owners cherry-pick the healthier patients.

A study released last week by a Georgetown University researcher examined referral patterns for physician-owners of heart hospitals vs. physicians with no hospital ownership who practice at competing community hospitals in Arizona. This study found physician-owners focus on patients without complicating conditions, leaving the sicker patients for the non-owners practicing at community hospitals.



CLOSE THE LOOPHOLE:

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

