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

FACT Fax

Do the financial incentives created by self-referral influence the behavior of physician-owners? The research says yes.

Behavior 2: Cherry-picking Healthier Patients

![Bar chart showing percent of cardiac surgery cases by number of comorbidities for physician owners vs. non-owners.]

Source: Mitchell JM, Effects of Physician-owned Limited-service Hospitals: Evidence from the Market for Cardiac Inpatient Care in Arizona, Georgetown University, April 26, 2005.

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

Preserve Care
Promote Fair Competition
Prevent Conflict of Interest