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America's Standard

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Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah could have gone anywhere in the world for treatment of his slipped disk, but he came to America -- the country the World... [View Enlarged Image](#)

health care in the Western world," wants to hear.

Neither will the Democrats, who have been agitating for decades for a socialist health care system, be happy with the answer.

But they will have to live with the facts — the 86-year-old Saudi King flew to the U.S. because that's where the best care is found.

Forget WHO's ranking that puts the U.S. at No. 37. That list is based on subjective criteria — not objective ones.

It is, as California economics professor Glen Whitman wrote for the Cato Institute in 2008, founded on "underlying assumptions," some of which are "logically incoherent" and others "rooted in ideological beliefs and values that not everyone shares."

The WHO used five factors in its rankings: health level, 25%; health distribution, 25%; responsiveness and responsiveness distribution, 12.5% each; financial fairness, 25%. Health level would be a good measure of a nation's overall health care system. Responsiveness is another legitimate benchmark.

But the other three? They're not related to the quality of care. They are more of a gauge of a country's statist disposition.

Not everyone in the U.S. lives in a luxury home, drives the best car or eats the finest food. Why should health care be any different, especially when trying to do so drives down the quality of care for all?

Don't be fooled. The best health care in the world is found in America. When comparing survival rates, waiting times, screening outcomes, and medical innovations and technologies, the U.S. comes out on top. Our care is why kings, premiers and the ultra-rich who can go anywhere they wish choose the U.S. for their care.

Health Care: Those who wish to nationalize medicine point to America's low position in world health rankings. But when a rich Saudi who could go anywhere for treatment chose, where did he go? America, of course.

When King Abdullah flew out of Saudi Arabia Monday to be treated after a blood clot had complicated a slipped disc, he didn't choose France, Italy, Britain, Canada, Morocco, Oman or Cyprus, all nations that stand higher than the U.S. in the World Health Organization's ranking of health care systems.

Neither did he stay in Saudi Arabia, travel to relatively nearby Malta or Greece. He avoided Andorra, Spain, Monaco and the United Arab Emirates, again, all judged by WHO to have better health care than the U.S.

So why did the man who has the resources to go anywhere in the world choose America? The answer isn't one Michael Moore, who thinks Cuba has better medicine than the U.S. and once said "we have the worst