

What in the world?

By: Donavin A. Baumgartner Jr. - December 15, 2013

I'm getting a little more than tired of hearing the United States is something like "35th in world health care ranking."

How many people can even name 35 countries without mentioning Libya, Tunisia, Syria or other countries — who would ever suggest have medical systems even remotely resembling the U.S.?

Where do foreigners go when they want health care? The overwhelming majority, including world leaders and the wealthy, come to the U.S. Why don't they go to the 34 countries "rated higher"?

Perhaps a looking at how things are "rated" will give an idea of how skewed the statistics can be. Take infant mortality where the U.S. ranks low among high-income countries. This is due to superior technological advancement of American hospitals that allows the saving of more premature babies that would have been declared "stillborn" in other countries. They, therefore would not have even been counted in their infant mortality statistics. One gets the idea that these "ratings" are the work of those with a definite "agenda."

American technology has led the world, at least up until the present. According to the Cato Institute, of the top 27 diagnostic and therapeutic advances of the past 40 years, 20 came from research in the U.S.

This may be coming to an end unless Congress repeals the 2.3 percent new Obamacare tax on medical devices causing top device firms, including Stryker, Zimmer, Welch-Allen and Covidian, to announce cutbacks in research investments and consider moving out of the U.S.