

ObamaCare: Death and Misery On the Horizon?

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

"If you think health care is expensive now, just wait and see how expensive it is when it's free." - P.J. O'Rourke, The Cato Institute

While many Americans complained about the cost of health care in the United States – and lawmakers in Washington, DC pushed through legislation that gives government bureaucrats control of the medical industry – perhaps Americans should learn about the horrors of having access to free medical treatment or health care on-the-cheap.

If it's European-style medicine progressives want, Americans should know it is health care that kills, causes suffering, and offers little in the way of health or care, according to men and women fighting to repeal ObamaCare.

Syndicated radio talk show host and attorney Mark Levin reported that an investigation of a British health care facility revealed horrible conditions including hundreds of deaths and unsanitary conditions.

Levin, who served as chief of staff at the U.S. Justice Department during the Reagan Administration, stated on the Thursday night edition of his highly rated show that the British Secretary of Health Andy Burnham commissioned a probe of a medical facility. The probe revealed a shockingly high death rate at that hospital.

According to the report — which confirmed the earlier findings of a March 2009 probe – 400 to 1,200 patients died from 2005 to 2008 while at the medical center Mid-Staffordshire NHS (National Health Service).

The probe revealed that aside from the disturbing high rate of deaths in that health care facility, the investigators discovered neglect because the hospital cut corners in a bid to reach government "targets." Britain possesses a socialized medical system that includes targeted cost savings at the expense of patients' well-being.

For example, the evidence gathered by the Inquiry shows clearly that for many patients the most basic elements of care were neglected. Calls for help to use the bathroom were

ignored and patients were left lying in soiled sheeting and sitting on commodes for hours, often feeling ashamed and afraid. Patients were left unwashed, at times for up to a month.

In addition, nurses lacked training, including in some cases how to read cardiac monitors, which were sometimes turned off, or how to use intravenous pumps. This meant patients did not always get the correct medication.

The shortage of nurses on wards meant call buttons went unanswered when patients were in pain or needed to use the toilet, particularly on medical wards. Relatives claimed patients were sometimes left for hours in wet or soiled sheets. Those at risk of developing pressure sores did not get adequate care.

The investigation revealed that some of the patients slept on sheets soiled with urine and feces over a long period of time, causing them to acquire infections. Relatives of the patients had to do the sheet washing at their homes.

Also, patients were not given the appropriate food, while those who were too weak to eat on their own were not assisted by hospital staff or volunteers.

"Is this what [President Barack] Obama and the Democrats want for Americans? The moment the government takes control of something, it's all downhill from there," said political strategist Mike Baker.