

The state of Healthcare in America

Intro: My name is Pat Grantham and I am a retired family physician. I practiced medicine in rural Montana for over 25 years. I am deeply concerned about the future of healthcare in America and I want to share some of those concerns with you today.

Secretary of Health and Human Services:

oversees 11 health agencies, including the FDA, CDC, NIH, ACF, and the CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services).

RFK, Jr – Very intelligent, and well educated and was at one time a well-respected environmental attorney., but is grossly unqualified for the position. His confirmation was opposed by 75 Nobel Laureate; over 17, 000 physicians wrote letters of opposition to members of Congress, and 80 separate health organizations were in opposition.

Healthcare under RFK, Jr and the Trump Administration: RFK, Jr takes a weak stand in favor of vaccines, and continues to spread lies and conspiracy theories about the association of the measles vaccine and autism, which as been well studied and no connection between vaccines and autism has been established.

The vaccine rate is falling and as a consequence, there is currently an outbreak of measles in Texas that has spread to over 10 states, resulting in at least 2 deaths. Measles had essentially been eradicated in the US. He has suggested treatment for measles (Vit A, cod liver oil and steroid inhalers) which is unfounded and bazaar. Almost as bad as suggesting a person suffering from COVID-19 inject bleach!) 5200 health care workers at the CDC and NIH have been cut, which will significantly affect important research -for example cancer research.

RFK, Jr and DOGE forced the resignation of Peter Marks, head of the FDA's vaccine research program, in spite of the fact that he has board certification in 3 medical specialties and is one of the leading experts on vaccine research. (Remember that RFK, Jr is not a physician and has no knowledge of medical research.)

Funding for Medicaid and SNAP will likely be cut, affecting millions of low income people, including the elderly, children, veterans, and people with disabilities. When people lose their health insurance, the financial burden then falls on hospitals and clinics to absorb those costs, which could result in the closure of hospitals, particularly in rural areas.

There are nearly 69, 000 people in WY on Medicaid – 12 % of the population, over 60% of these are under the age of 21. There are almost 127,000 people in WY (22 % of the population) receiving Medicare benefits, which are earned benefits and not handouts or a Ponze scheme.

What can we do?

Seek out the facts about healthcare from your doctors, reputable medical journals, and scientific research.

Educate your friends and family about healthcare issues

Get yourself vaccinated and encourage others to do the same

Call your legislators and express your concerns about healthcare issues. Let them know that you can not support them, if they are not willing to support you and your healthcare concerns

Support people and organizations that promote research and accurate medical information

President Trump, Secretary Kennedy, the US Congress, and your local legislators do not have the courage and/or the will to promote reasonable healthcare policy.

Therefore, it is up to all of us – We the People – to fight for the healthcare we deserve. We must all work together to keep America healthy.

Doctor Pat Grantham joined our community after retiring. She is a retired family physician who practiced medicine in rural Montana for over 25 years. She is very involved in our local NAMI—National Alliance on Mental Illness, and she is also our medic for today.