

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 8/13/2023

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Town/City: Colchester

Topic: Hospital Budget

Comment: I am an independent gastroenterologist who performs the bulk of my procedures at the Green Mountain Surgery Center (GMSC). We offer a high value alternative to the UVMHC. You'd think that the primary care providers affiliated with the hospital would offer this site as an alternative to UVMC yet I often hear from patients that they have to request the surgery center and that the PCP often does not even inform the patient that there is an alternative site for endoscopic procedures. You'd also think that the third party payers would almost encourage their members to seek alternative high quality health care besides the expensive tertiary care medical center. My sense is that this is restraint of trade from the monopoly known as UVMHC. Their providers, I suspect, are discouraged from referring to alternative centers even though there is no such thing as a "network" in Vermont. And it would be nice if the GMCB had allowed more specialties to practice at the GMSC to allow for further control of health care expenses. It is a real pleasure to see that the "new" GMCB appears to have a real sense of why health care costs are so high in Vermont. I applaud their efforts to reign in UVMHC. Good Luck and keep it up.

Post Comment: Yes