



Whistleblower Doctor--The Politics and Economics of Pain and Dying

By David Keith Cundiff

Culture Change Press, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This exposé, Whistleblower Doctor--The Politics and Economics of Pain and Dying, concerns Dr. David K. Cundiff's efforts over 32 years to improve the quality of palliative care and hospice services for cancer and AIDS patients at the LA County + USC Medical Center. Over a nine year period, he improved the care of terminally ill cancer and AIDS patients at the LA County + USC Medical Center by directing a popular Pain and Palliative Care Consultation Service. Unfortunately for the financial bottom line of the hospital, better pain and symptom control of terminally ill patients led to more patients at home and fewer patients occupying Medicaid-funded hospital beds. The unintended consequence of Medicaid's dysfunctional hospital-centric funding system was the closure of Dr. Cundiff's Consultation Service in 1995. Dr. Cundiff subsequently blew the whistle by writing 83 incident reports about patients receiving poor pain and symptom management. He also wrote an op-ed piece in the LA Times about poor palliative care and widespread institutionalized inefficiencies due to dysfunctional Medicaid financial incentives rewarding a higher...



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