Provider Consolidation
LESS COMPETITION AND HIGHER COSTS

Research demonstrates that when hospitals consolidate, either merging with other hospitals or buying up physician practices, health care costs go up. Provider consolidation gives hospitals greater negotiating strength and limits competition, resulting in higher prices for services, higher costs for patients, and no improvement in the quality of care delivered.

Physicians Are Becoming Hospital Employees

In 2000 1 in 20 specialists was a hospital employee...

...Today 1 in 4 specialists is a hospital employee.

“Last year, a 15-minute visit to a doctor in private practice cost $69...That same visit to a hospital-employed physician cost $124.”

- Orlando Sentinel

Increasing Market Concentration Leads to Higher Prices for Consumers

Percentage increase in market concentration from 1999-2003.

“Research suggests that hospital consolidation in the 1990s raised prices by at least five percent and likely significantly more. Prices increase 40 percent or more when merging hospitals are closely located.”

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
