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## Big Medicine Won't Police Itself

The UnitedHealth Group-Amedisys merger is just one of several recent examples of how the second Trump administration is trusting Big Medicine to put the public's interests above its own, despite decades of evidence to the contrary.

In May, President Donald Trump issued an [executive order](#) requesting that drug manufacturers voluntarily lower their drug prices.

In June, his health cabinet announced a [“pledge”](#) by Big Medicine insurers to reduce their self-imposed prior authorization requirements, which prevent patients from accessing care and physicians from exercising their clinical judgment. Perhaps as a concession, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) then [announced](#) it will enlist Big Medicine insurers to expand prior authorization in traditional Medicare and compensate them based on how much money they save – or, in other words, how much care they deny.

Later that month, CMS Administrator Mehmet Oz [suggested](#) giving pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) “one last chance to fix [the inflationary drug rebate system] on their own” before Congress does it for them.

In each case, the Trump administration is asking *nicely* if Big Medicine conglomerates will clean up the mess they have made of the U.S. healthcare system instead of using its authority to hold them accountable for playing with patients' lives. Americans deserve better, which is why we must break up Big Medicine for good.