

I.Q. -- Interesting Quote

Editorial Staff

The Price of Medical Technology

The opening remarks of the monograph presented by the Quebec Task Force on Whiplash-Related Disorders¹ included an interesting comment on medical technology as it relates to third-party reimbursement:

"Since World War II, there has been pressure to depend more on sophisticated technology. Such technology often goes through a trendy 'fad phase' and is not always subjected to rigorous scientific evaluation before its use becomes widespread. The price paid by society for such shortcomings is aggravated by procedure-oriented fee-for-service reimbursement schemes that reward 'doing' much more than 'thinking.'"

Reference

1. Spitzer WO, et al. Scientific monograph of the Quebec Task Force on Whiplash-Related Disorders: Redefining "whiplash and its management." *Spine* 1995;8S:10S

SEPTEMBER 1995