

**CPR Comment on The Washington Post Op-Ed
“Easing The 'Death Panel' Fear,” August 12, 2009
By Kathleen Parker**

Posted By: CPR (August 12, 2009)

Parker’s article included a passing comment about “the variety of health-care practitioners.” As our nation moves towards healthcare reform, it is important to remember that doctors of medicine are not the only gatekeepers to safe and affordable care.

There are over three million licensed healthcare professionals, who are not doctors of medicine (MDs) or osteopathy (DOs) that are committed to ensuring comprehensive healthcare choices for all patients. Doctors should not always be the default providers for medical care, when professionals such as nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists are well-prepared to provide an array of safe, high-quality and cost-effective services.

The Coalition for Patients’ Rights represents these healthcare professionals, many of which fill gaps in healthcare services and provide benefits not offered by MDs or DOs, including a higher degree of personalized care, specialty services, greater accessibility and increased affordability. For more information on these healthcare professionals, visit the Coalition for Patients’ Rights™ at: www.patientsrightscoalition.org.

- The Coalition for Patients’ Rights™

**Article available at
www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/08/11/AR2009081102935.html**