

**CPR Comment on *The Detroit News* Op-Ed
Op-Ed By Havemen: “Don't Build New Medical Schools”
Article Published January 4, 2010**

Posted By: CPR (January 4, 2010)

Mr. Haveman is spot on in this piece. Protecting and expanding access to healthcare providers who are not doctors of medicine (MDs) or osteopathy (DOs) is key to ensuring patients have access to the right care, when they need it. Unfortunately, this problem isn't limited to Michigan. Across the country, we are seeing providers (such as registered nurses, naturopathic doctors, psychologists, audiologists, physical and occupational therapists, advanced practice registered nurses, optometrists and chiropractors) facing limitations to the care they can provide because of the efforts of well-financed physician interest groups.

Mr. Haveman rightly makes the point that creating a glut of primary care physicians doesn't make sense for patients " but ensuring that non-MD/DO care providers can do the jobs they are trained to do does make sense. As a coalition of over 35 non-MD/DO provider organizations, the Coalition for Patient's Rights (www.patientsrightscoalition.org), is dedicated to putting patients first. This means ensuring our members can provide the full scope of care they are trained and licensed to provide, so each patient can access the care that is right for them.

-The Coalition for Patient's Rights, Washington, DC

Response to article: www.detnews.com/article/20091230/OPINION01/912300348