



With pandemic restrictions all over the U.S. being lifted, we are seeing what our new “normal” is after two years of closed doors, virtual meetings, and mask mandates. While some good has come out of it, there are many things that have stayed the same -- and not for the better.

Earlier this week, 4<sup>th</sup> year medical students found out if they “matched” with a residency program, and on Friday, those that did match, find out where. It is only through the Match and participating in a residency that a fully trained doctor can become a licensed physician in the United States. BRI Board Member and Senior Resident Fellow, Devon M. Herrick, Ph.D., dives into the Residency Crisis, the Match, and how these are major contributors to the shortage of physicians in this country.

Don't miss this month's edition of BRI's Virtual Event Series. Mitchell Li, MD, of Take Medicine Back [discusses](#) direct emergency care, surprise billing, and a grassroots approach to overhauling healthcare on Thursday, March 31 at 1pm ET.

The pandemic has led many to look at decades-old healthcare laws and regulations on the federal and state levels. In a new section of this newsletter, BRI's Legislative Director, Brian Williams, gives updates on what is going on in healthcare reform in some states. Stay up to date on what is going on where you live or go to school.

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## ***The Match & a Shortage of Physicians***

Once patients require care beyond what they can provide for themselves, they need a licensed physician who can practice medicine, prescribe drugs, authorize diagnostic tests, and perhaps admit them to hospitals. However, many areas of the country have a serious shortage of these doctors, limiting patients' access to care. More than one-third of Americans surveyed reported having a difficult time finding a doctor. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, the United States has a shortage of nearly 20,000 physicians today, and that number is expected to rise to at least 37,800 and possibly as high as 124,000 by the year 2034. This translates into a potential shortage of up to 48,000 primary care providers and 77,100 specialists in fewer than a dozen years. The areas that will see the biggest shortages will be in rural areas and in states with too few of the residency slots required for physician training.

Read the full text of Devon Herrick's paper on the Residency Crisis [HERE](#).

## ***BRI's Virtual Events Series - Upcoming Webinar***

Mitchell Li, MD, FAAEM, of [Take Medicine Back](#) joins BRI to talk about direct *emergency* care, surprise billing, and a grassroots approach to overhauling healthcare. Join this jam-packed conversation on **Thursday, March 31 at 1pm ET**. Seats are limited so register for this free event [NOW](#).



Have you missed any of our Virtual Events, or would you like to see some of our events hosted on our medical school campuses across the country? Subscribe [NOW](#) to our YouTube channel. View past events and be notified when new videos are added.

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## ***IN THE STATES – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE***

Keep informed about what is happening in healthcare legislation in your state in this new BRI update. Every month, BRI's Legislative Director takes snapshots of bills and reforms moving through the state capitals so you can be informed.

Take a look at this month's Legislative Update [HERE](#).

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## ***SUPPORT BRI***

***Support the future of healthcare – donate to the Benjamin Rush Institute.*** Our mission is to educate medical students on free enterprise solutions that promote the doctor-patient relationship. The future of medicine – our medical students – must be educated on how policies, laws, and regulations of today will affect the future of medicine and their professions. That's where BRI steps in.

Consider supporting Benjamin Rush Institute. BRI is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax-deductible.

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