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I am a physician and a medical scientist in training, and I implore the FCC to maintain net neutrality for the sake of all forms of medical care and research endeavors.

It is much underappreciated how the internet has changed health care. During a routine visit with a patient, a physician can easily and rapidly access the current standard of care in treating his or her patient's ailments. This routine procedure helps to guarantee that the patient is receiving the best of care from the consensus of the medical community. Unfortunately, if net neutrality is lost, there will no longer be a guarantee that physicians, whether they are in rural, urban, academic, or private settings, will be able to access this wealth of information in a manner timely to patient care. As a result of losing net-neutrality, quality patient care could suffer tremendously.

High-speed and neutral internet access is the bloodline of scientific progress in the information age. With the growing popularity of bioinformatics and "Big Data" collection, the need to store, remotely analyze, and compare these datasets through the internet has become a necessity. Without the protection of net-neutrality, all private and academic research institutions in the US stand to lose our competitiveness with foreign research centers. In the past few years, the National Institute of Health (NIH) has placed a huge emphasis on conducting studies based on preliminary analysis of bioinformatics and "Big Data." Research funding by the NIH almost depends on having this type of internet-dependent data. Without net neutrality, it becomes much more difficult for medical researchers to perform and analyze this kind of data. This could have disastrous consequences where many medical researchers can no longer receive NIH support, and medical research in the US becomes stymied. Again, it will be patient care that could suffer tremendously from the loss of net neutrality.

I hope that I have made the point that disrupting net-neutrality could have profound and unforeseen consequences on the medical and research infrastructure of the United States. As a citizen, a patient, and a future physician scientist, I again implore you to keep the US at the forefront of patient care and medical research by maintaining net-neutrality. The future of our patients may very well depend on this.