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COMMENTARY

## Healthcare apartheid and quality of life for people with disabilities

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The sizzling debate on healthcare reform has very little to do with me as a person with a significant physical disability, yet it fuels the fire in my belly. I am well insured because I work and supposedly have access to some of the best healthcare in the world, yet I continue to receive, and suffer from, some services that are second-class for several reasons. Our current system is best prepared to deal with

of the medical industry to compliance with the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Yes, you will find all the obligatory ramps and parking spaces, but where can you find an elevating exam table or a platform scale? Much has been written about how the absence of accessible equipment limits quality healthcare for people with disabilities, especially women [1, 2]. There is no mystery about why I