



American Doctors Practicing Abroad – A growing trend or an anomaly?

By Ilene Little on Wednesday, May 8, 2013

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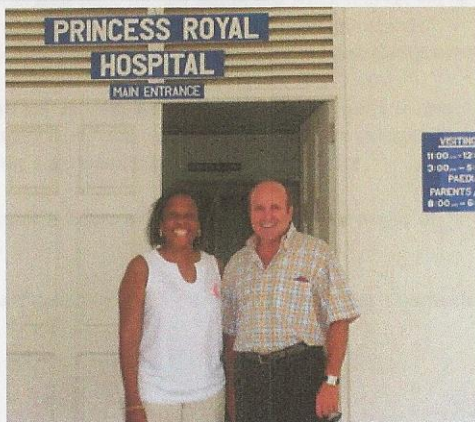
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What is driving a famous plastic surgeon from Philadelphia to expand his medical practice to Macau, China and the Caribbean island of Grenada?

Doctors, like people in all professions, make decisions based on what's practical for the future of their businesses and their families. Doctors in the U.S. are admitting publically that they are changing the way they practice, where they practice, and even retiring early or getting out of medicine entirely. (Source: [Deloitte's 2013 survey](#) .)



Dr. Kirk Brandow pictured with Dr. Patterson at entrance to Princess Royal Hospital, Carriacou, Grenada

Ever wonder about the conversations doctors have with one another about the changes they are contemplating and the impact on their patients? Most patients know these conversations are taking place, just not with "us" patients.

I invite you to listen to the 4/23/13 radio show interview of Dr. Kirk Brandow sharing his decision-making process to practice abroad. Brandow is joined on the show by Shai Gold, an American healthcare executive who advises doctors on practicing in Latin America and in the Caribbean.

Download: [Know Before You Go Radio Show Archive April 23, 2013](#)

We chose Dr. Brandow to interview because he presented a paper on a breakthrough scarless procedure targeting the neck and jowl area called the **Brandow Boomer Lift** at the 2013 national American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery. And he was chosen as one of the best plastic surgeons in the U.S. (source: PSP Magazine,

How Patients Benefit From U.S. Doctors Practicing Abroad

Brandow doesn't think it's just the doctors that are suffering in the U.S., but also the patients. Like most doctors, Brandow is a compassionate medical professional who cares about affordable and accessible patient care.

He intends to practice in destinations where he believes many patients will end up living or will travel to for more affordable care.

"I think that the American population will be restricted in what procedures they're going to be able to have in this country, and people will look to go abroad because the co-pays in the United States for having a procedure performed will probably be more expensive than having the procedure done by a qualified doctor abroad," said Brandow.

"When the Baby Boomers retire and take their money out of the stock market we're going to have a lot of changes in this country," said Brandow, "The healthcare of people is going to suffer, and people are going to move to places like the Caribbean."

Brandow predicts, "It's going to be too expensive for a lot of retirees to live in this country. Taxation is going to be very high here, and I think people are going to look towards retiring in English-speaking countries in the next 10 to 15 years."

Brandow and other top-notch doctors like him will be there to meet the needs of these relocated Americans.

Dr. Kirk Brandow is founder and director of [The Brandow Clinic for Cosmetic Surgery and Medical Day Spa](#).

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The author: [Ilene Little](#)

Ilene has written **185** posts to this blog. Ilene Little, CEO of Traveling 4 Health & Retirement (THR), has written the definite guide for the medical tourist [How to Plan a Successful Medical Tourism Trip](#) featuring live interviews of patients, doctors, facilitators, and caregivers. Tune in each week at noon Eastern Standard

Time to the [Know Before You Go Radio Show](#) hosted by Ilene Little