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Requirement for Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers to Provide Coverage of Preventive Services under the PatientProtection and Affordable Care Act

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Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Coverage of Preventive Services under Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Amendment

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General Comment

I am so thrilled that HHS is prioritizing the health of all women by providing for no cost birth control. As a former women's health care professional, I can tell you that cost is often the most heavily weighed factor for women considering a birth control method. Not whether the method is effective. Not whether it is the most appropriate method for her health care needs. Cost. I am so happy that women will be able to take care of themselves more fully because they will be able to choose the birth control method that is right for them regardless of cost. In addition to being the right thing to do in a country that values women and the contributions that they make to society, it is also the most cost effective choice for America.
As we move to an era where access to health and healthcare is not tied to ones employer, it is appropriate that women be able to access this new benefit regardless of their employer. There should not be exceptions for religious organizations in offering insurance plans with no cost For too many women, their choice of work dictates their access to health services. That chapter needs to come to a close so we can all share equally in the future.