

Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 12:42 PM
To: EBSA, E-OHPSCA - EBSA
Subject: Comment in support of RIN 1210-AB30

April 24, 2010

I am writing to support the interim final rule under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (RIN 1210-AB30).

I support the strong rule that would forbid insurance companies from charging higher copayments, deductibles, and other out-of-pocket expenses for mental health treatment than they would for other physical health care. Thank you for ensuring that mental health care and physical health care coverage are included in a single deductible.

In full disclosure, I am a retired psychotherapist. I have had the experience of having to break off treatment with someone whose insurance company refused to cover anything but a very short number of visits. This did take the client out of crisis, but in no way even began to treat the underlying condition.

Sincerely,

Katharine von Fischer