

RHTP Applauds Obama Administration for Clarifying Contraceptive Coverage Guarantees

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Washington, DC – Yesterday, the Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor, and Treasury issued [guidance](#) clarifying how contraceptive products and services are to be covered under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). While the ACA expanded insurance coverage of contraception for millions of women across the nation, recent reports have exposed numerous instances of insurance providers refusing to comply with the laws aimed at expanding access.

Today's guidance confirms that all non-grandfathered private insurance plans must cover each of the 18 contraceptive methods approved by the Food and Drug Administration, including emergency contraception, as well as the medical services required to obtain them. Moreover, both the methods and the services must be covered without cost-sharing, such as co-pays or deductibles. The guidance sends the clear message that insurers who fail to comply with such requirements will be in violation of the law.

“There is no one-size-fits-all method of contraception. Today's guidance ensures that a woman, in consultation with her doctor – not her insurance company – can make the decision about which method of contraception is best for her unique needs and circumstances,” said Jessica Arons, President and CEO of the Reproductive Health Technologies Project (RHTP).

With today's clarifications, RHTP hopes that even more women can obtain their preferred method without having to worry about the price and that issuers will be held accountable for any failures to provide no-cost coverage.

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Founded in 1982, the mission of the Reproductive Health Technologies Project is to advance the ability of every woman of any age to achieve full reproductive freedom with access to the safest, most effective, appropriate and acceptable technologies for ensuring her own health and controlling her fertility. To fulfill this mission, we seek to build consensus in support of an education, research and advocacy agenda for reproductive health and reproductive freedom. We seek consensus through a process of dialogue among diverse communities about technological developments and their global implications.