

**From:** [mary\\_pelton\\_cooper](mailto:mary_pelton_cooper)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](mailto:E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA)  
**Subject:** Don't deny contraceptive coverage to any woman!  
**Date:** Thursday, September 22, 2011 12:22:05 PM

---

Preventive care keeps women healthy! Requiring insurers to cover preventive health care like contraception, breast feeding support and screening for domestic violence and HIV -- without charging co-pays -- makes these services affordable for more women. And it helps women stay healthy.

Employers should not be able to deny a woman this coverage. Medical experts agree that this preventive health care is necessary for all women and that contraception is preventive care. Religious employers should not be given the power to leave contraceptive coverage out of their insurance plans because it will exclude some women from getting the care they need to be healthy, have healthy pregnancies and have healthy babies. Let a woman make her own decision – she knows her body and beliefs better than her bosses do!

We have to fight this kind of gender discrimination at every opportunity. The Catholic Bishops do not respect our rights as equal citizens in the USA. We can't reinforce their belief that they are entitled to the power to do harm.

Please remove the proposed religious employer refusal provision from your Women's Preventive Services rule.

mary pelton cooper

Negaunee, MI