

**From:** [Esty Stein](#)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
**Subject:** Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Coverage of Preventive Services under Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Amendment (Document ID HHS-OS-2011-0023-0002)  
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Dear Secretary Sebelius,

We thank you for your enduring efforts to make preventative health care services more available to women and for valuing the role of prevention in making our communities healthier and stronger.

However, at this time we ask you to ensure that all women have access to these services, regardless of her place of employment. Women, not their employers, should make the important decisions regarding health care and family planning.

This issue is important to Latinas; 89% of young Latinas believe birth control should be available with no-copay. Birth control is not cheap, and 50% of all women, including Latinas, report that the high cost of contraception has interfered with their ability to use it properly. Even the religious in our country overwhelmingly support insurance coverage for women's preventive care, including family planning, with 63% of American Catholics supporting insurance coverage for contraception and 98% of Catholic women having used birth control over the course of their lives.

At this time, we urge you to ensure that the historical progress made for women's health applies to all women, regardless of the views of her employer.

Esty Stein  
170 Tillary Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201