

From: [A. Barre](#)
To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Comments Regarding Preventative Care and Contraception
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 9:10:58 PM

I ask that you accept the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine as they pertain to the coverage of preventive care under the new health care law and to reject any exemptions for "religious employers." These preventive services are a critical element of the new law and would provide countless women better access to necessary health care.

I (and numerous others) personally believe that "religious refusal" exemptions unjustly deny women access to contraceptive services. Others people, driven by an ideological distaste for all contraceptive services, are pushing the government to make exemptions even larger. Some groups are pushing for the exemption to apply to religiously-run health providers, so hospitals with religious affiliations would be exempt from the coverage requirement, even though they employ people of all faiths and ideologies. If granted, this larger exemption would deny access to thousands of women just because of where they work. This is absurd.

I urge you to ensure women have access to quality preventive care by accepting IOM's recommendations and rejecting the proposed religious refusal exemption provisions. Thank you for your time and consideration.