



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

October 5, 2010

Partnership for Prevention
1015 18th Street, NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Partnership for Prevention:

Thank you for your letter about Section 2713 of the Affordable Care Act, which expands access to clinical preventive services. I appreciate your suggestions to ensure confidentiality for adolescents and young adults who receive preventive services.

I, too, recognize that privacy is a critical concern among teens and young adults seeking services related to sexual health, and appreciate your recommendations with respect to the requirement to issue Explanation of Benefits (EOBs) for all U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommended A and B preventive services. I understand your point that since USPSTF services must be provided at no cost to the patient or policyholder, EOBs for those services are unnecessary. On July 14, 2010, the Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor, and the Treasury issued interim final regulations requiring private health plans to cover certain evidence-based preventive services, including the sexual health preventive services you listed. For new health policies beginning on or after September 23, 2010, insurers must cover such preventive services without cost sharing.

Please see <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-17242.pdf> for the regulation's full text. The comment period for this regulation ended on September 17, 2010. We will consider your letter as we draft the final regulations. You can also visit www.HealthCare.gov for more information about preventive services.

Thank you for your advocacy on this important issue. I would appreciate you sharing this response with your co-signers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Sebelius". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kathleen Sebelius