

## Birth control methods and reimbursements covered under the Oregon Health Plan

According to 42 CFR § 441.20, “For beneficiaries eligible under the plan [Medicaid State Plan] for family planning services, the plan must provide that each beneficiary is free from coercion or mental pressure and free to choose the method of family planning to be used.”

This fact sheet explains the services that providers and coordinated care organizations (CCOs) should make available to help ensure this freedom for Oregon Health Plan (OHP) members.

### What types of birth control are covered?

#### Pharmaceutical services:

- Birth control patch
- Birth control pills
- Emergency contraception (e.g., Plan B, Ella, Next Choice)

#### Medical-surgical services:

- Birth control shots
- Birth control ring
- Cervical cap
- Contraceptive implant
- Diaphragm
- Intrauterine device (IUD)
- Permanent contraception, such as tubal ligation

### Can CCOs refer to formularies or require a generic for prescription birth control medications?

Yes, they could require generics above brands (ORS 414.325). However, to be compliant with 42 CFR § 441.20, CCOs should support the patient’s freedom to choose the family planning method they prefer.

For example, a CCO cannot use step therapies (where the member must first use one type of birth control before the CCO may approve coverage for any other birth control option that OHP covers).

### Is birth control coverage a carve-out?

No. CCOs are responsible for covering family planning services. These services are included in their capitation. Providers who serve CCO members should consider billing the CCO first. If the CCO is unable to pay an out-of-network provider, then the provider may bill OHA.

### Why are OHP members free to see any enrolled provider for family planning services?

Oregon Administrative Rule 410-130-0585(4) permits this in order to ensure OHP members comprehensive, convenient access to family planning services. This is especially important for newly-enrolled members who may not yet know which pharmacy to use. Visiting an out-of-network pharmacy or provider should not interfere with family planning access.

### References

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration Birth Control Guide:  
<http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ByAudience/ForWomen/FreePublications/ucm313215.htm>
- OHA Effective Contraceptive Use Measure Information:  
[www.oregon.gov/oha/analytics/CCODData/Effective%20Contraceptive%20Use%20Guidance%20Document.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/oha/analytics/CCODData/Effective%20Contraceptive%20Use%20Guidance%20Document.pdf)
- CMS’ Maternal and Infant Health Initiative and the developmental contraceptive use measure  
<https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/improvement-initiatives/maternal-and-infant-health/contraception/index.html>