



March 20, 2017

Health Share of Oregon Comments on HB 3135

Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

Health Share of Oregon is writing in support of HB 3135 regarding Oregon Health Plan (OHP) payment policy for post-partum placement of long-acting reversible contraceptives.

Health Share is the state's largest coordinated care organization (CCO), providing OHP coverage to approximately 210,000 Oregonians in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. Typically, Health Share opposes legislative coverage mandates, preferring that coverage determinations be facilitated through the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC). We do not see HB 3135 as a coverage mandate, but rather a payment policy. The coverage guidance has already been issued by the HERC.

Health Share supports this payment policy for three reasons:

1. Immediate postpartum placement of LARCs is an evidence-based practice to improve rates of effective contraception use among women who do not desire pregnancy
2. Immediate postpartum placement of LARCs would help OHP members access the most effective forms of contraception in a way that is convenient to them, without the barriers that many women face in the postpartum period (e.g., difficulty with transportation and child care; difficulty scheduling and keeping appointments)
3. Immediate postpartum placement of LARCs will contribute to reducing unintended pregnancies, which take a significant toll on the lives and health of our members

We have a number of clinicians in our service area who are eager to offer this service to their patients, and many members are interested in availing themselves of this opportunity. Ensuring OHP payment for immediate postpartum placement of LARCs will facilitate our efforts to get the right care to the right people at the right time. We feel confident that this payment policy change will contribute in a positive way to the health and wellbeing of our population, and we appreciate the efforts that Representative Buehler and the Oregon Health Authority have made to bring this issue to light.

Respectfully submitted by Janet L. Meyer, Chief Executive Officer

For more information:

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