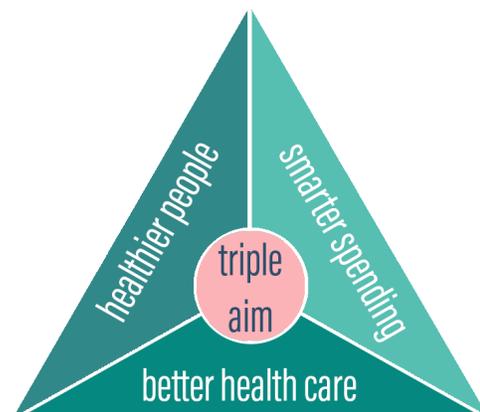


The Impact of Coverage and Access to Women's Health Services

Services essential to women's health include well woman medical visits; preventive screenings for breast and cervical cancers; other preventive measures, such as HPV vaccines; prenatal and maternity care; and, contraceptive care and other family planning assistance. Providing insurance coverage for these services, and access to high quality providers that can deliver appropriate care, are essential for meeting Triple Aim objectives of better health care, smarter spending, and healthier people.

Coverage and access of these services also pave the way for innovation that can improve health care products and services over time – for example, today's generation of long acting reversible contraceptives (LARC). And in particular, access to family planning and reproductive services are essential to families' long-term economic stability and well being.

Coverage and Access for Women's Health Services Promote the *Triple Aim*



Better Health Care

As with all areas of health care, advances that improve women's health depend on an innovation ecosystem fueled by science, public and private investment, and insurance coverage.

3-D BREAST IMAGING and SCREENINGS
has contributed to **34% decline**
in mortality

Advances in such areas as 3-D breast imaging and greater access to screenings has led to earlier cancer detection, and contributed to a 34 percent decline in the breast cancer mortality rate since 1975.¹

LARC use contributed to **18%** decline in unintended pregnancies

Utilization of LARC contributed to an 18 percent decline in unintended pregnancies between 2008 and 2011 alone.²

Use of HPV VACCINES cut infections by **64%**

First approved in 2006, vaccines offering protection against the human papilloma virus (HPV) have cut infections from this cancer-causing virus by 64 percent among teenage girls.³

Smarter Spending

Providing women access to basic health services is cost effective.

A study of contraceptive use found that implantable contraceptives and intrauterine devices, or IUDs, saved more than \$7 for every \$1 spent; injectable contraceptives produced savings of nearly \$6 per \$1 spent; and oral contraceptives saved \$4 per \$1 spent.⁴



The annual direct savings in health care costs due to contraceptive use is estimated to be \$19.3 billion.⁸

\$19.3 billion direct savings from contraceptive use

publicly funded contraceptives have helped women prevent **1.9 million** unintended pregnancies

In 2014 alone, publicly funded contraceptive services helped women prevent 1.9 million unintended pregnancies.⁶ Without these services, the U.S. rates of unintended pregnancy, unplanned birth and abortion each would have been 68 percent higher, and the teen pregnancy rate would have been 73 percent higher.⁷

19 million U.S. WOMEN
in need of publicly funded services

More than half of the 37 million U.S. women who need contraceptive services are in need of publicly funded services either because they have an income below 250% of the federal poverty level or because they are younger than 20 years.⁵

Healthier People

Women who have coverage and access to needed health services can benefit broadly, as can their families; conversely, lack of coverage results in poor health outcomes.

Uninsured women face **60%** greater risk of late-stage diagnosis

Uninsured women with breast cancer were 30 to 50 percent more likely to die from the disease; and faced 60 percent greater risk of late-stage cervical cancer diagnosis due to lapsed screening.⁹

Optimal spacing of pregnancies, achievable by family planning, reduces the risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes, including low birth weight and prematurity.¹⁰

Women who have access to contraception are more likely to continue their education, raising their earning power and helping to reduce the long-standing gender gap in pay.¹¹



women with access to birth control have **40 percent higher earnings**
\$

Women who have access to birth control have 40 percent higher earnings than those who don't.¹²

ENDNOTES

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About NEHI:

NEHI, a nonpartisan think tank and membership organization, identifies and promotes innovations and cross-sector solutions that lead to better health care, smarter spending, and healthier people. With more than 80 members across the spectrum of health and health care – health care systems, payers, patient groups, biopharmaceutical companies, and others – NEHI produces research and thought leadership aimed at a broad audience, including policy makers at the federal and state levels.

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