

# The Affordable Care Act

Addressing the unique health needs of women



More than **6 in 10** women ages 40 and older had a mammogram within the past two years.<sup>1</sup>

**The law requires coverage of many preventive services for women, including mammograms, at no cost to women.**



Nearly **77 percent** of women start breastfeeding after giving birth.<sup>2</sup>



Only **16 percent** still exclusively breastfeed at 6 months.<sup>2</sup>

**The law requires coverage of breastfeeding support and equipment to make going back to work easier for breastfeeding moms.**



Nearly **135 million** women have received a routine exam in the past two years,<sup>5</sup> many having to pay out-of-pocket.

**The law requires coverage of well-woman visits at no cost to women.**



More than **4 in 10** women ages 15–44 use some form of contraception.<sup>4</sup>

**The law requires full coverage of FDA-approved birth control at no cost to women.**

An estimated **19.7 million** women are smokers,<sup>3</sup> which puts them at risk for several types of cancer and heart disease.

**The law requires coverage, at no cost, for services to help women quit smoking.**



## The Health Care Law Protects Women

- ▶ Women cannot be denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition.
- ▶ Women can choose any primary care provider or OB-GYN in their health plan's network.
- ▶ Women cannot be charged more than men for the same health coverage.
- ▶ Women's health coverage must include pregnancy and newborn care.

### More choices. More control. Better health.

An important part of the law is the new Health Insurance Marketplace. Starting October 1, Americans, including 18.6 million women who are uninsured,<sup>6</sup> will be able to find insurance that fits their needs—all in one place.

Learn more about the law at [HHS.gov/HealthCare](http://HHS.gov/HealthCare).  
Get ready for the Health Insurance Marketplace at [HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov).