

Appendix H: Preventive Services in Health Care Reform Proposals Introduced in the 102d Congress

Table H-1 lists the preventive services explicitly specified for coverage in the major congressional health care reform proposals introduced in the 102d Congress that outlined a benefit package.

All major congressional reform proposals that outlined a benefit package included coverage for prenatal care. The details of this coverage, however, were seldom clear. Several plans would have required that the Department of Health and Human Services or a quasi-public board establish a periodicity schedule or standards of care. Five proposals would have covered postnatal services and four proposals would have included family planning services. As with prenatal care, the nature of coverage for postnatal care and family planning care (i.e., the particular items and services covered, types of health care providers who could be reimbursed, or potential restrictions on coverage) was generally not specified in the proposed legislation.

All of the congressional proposals that outlined a benefit package included well-baby or well-child care.¹ Some were more specific than others in regard to the scope and details of covered services. For example, S. 1177 would have included a comprehensive set of examinations, screening tests, and immunizations, in accordance with standards set by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. On the other end of the spectrum, S. 1872 would have included only well-baby care (for infants under one year of age), including those services that

“are consistent with recommendations and periodicity schedules developed by appropriate medical experts.”

A few of the congressional proposals would have provided coverage of immunizations. Other proposals that did not explicitly identify immunizations as a covered service may have considered immunizations as covered under well-child or well-baby care.

Most, but not all legislative proposals would have included breast cancer and cervical cancer screening; six proposals would have covered colorectal cancer screening; and three proposals would have covered prostate cancer screening.

Several congressional proposals had provisions for coverage of health promotion, education or counseling services. S. 1446, and its companion bill H.R. 8, would have covered “health care and health promotion services designed to prevent or minimize the effect of illness, disease, or medical condition.” H.R. 5514 included in its basic benefits package counseling for the purpose of promoting health and preventing illness or injury, as well as health education for children under 19 years old. H.R. 3229 would have included unspecified health promotion and health education, as well as advocacy, as part of a national delivery system. The guidelines for this coverage would have been established by a national oversight board created by the bill.

Few major congressional health care reform proposals explicitly excluded some or all preventive services from coverage. Exceptions were S. 1227 and S. 1872 which would have excluded routine physical examinations from the minimum benefit package.

¹ Well-baby care generally refers to care delivered to infants under one year of age. The range of ages for well-child care coverage was from 7 and younger (H.R. 5936) to 23 and younger (H.R. 8).

**Table H-I-Clinical Preventive Services Included in or Specifically Excluded from^a
Congressional Health Care Reform Proposals, 102d Congress**

Intervention	Proposals
Prenatal care	H.R. 3205 (Rostenkowski, D-IL) S. 1177 (Rockefeller, D-WV) S. 1227 (Mitchell, D-ME) H.R. 8 (Oakar, D-OH) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE) H.R. 5524 (Dingell, D-MI; Waxman, D-CA) S. 2320 (Wellstone, D-MN) S. 2513 (Daschle, D-SD; Wofford, D-PA) H.R. 3229 (Dellums, D-CA)
Family planning	H.R. 3205 (Rostenkowski, D-IL) S. 1177 (Rockefeller, D-WV) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE) H.R. 3229 (Dellums, D-CA)
Well-baby care and well-childcare	H.R. 3205 (Rostenkowski, D-IL) S. 1177 (Rockefeller, D-WV) S. 1227 (Mitchell, D-ME) H.R. 8 (Oakar, D-OH) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE) H.R. 5524 (Dingell, D-MI; Waxman, D-CA) S. 2320 (Wellstone, D-MN) S. 2513 (Daschle, D-SD; Wofford, D-PA) H.R. 3229 (Dellums, D-CA)
Immunizations	H.R. 3205 (Rostenkowski, D-IL) S. 1177 (Rockefeller, D-WV) H.R. 8 (Oakar, D-OH) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE)
Breast cancer screening	H.R. 3205 (Rostenkowski, D-IL) S. 1177 (Rockefeller, D-WV) S. 1227 (Mitchell, D-ME) H.R. 8 (Oakar, D-OH) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE) S. 2320 (Wellstone, D-MN) S. 2513 (Daschle, D-SD; Wofford, D-PA)

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Table H-I-Clinical Preventive Services included in or Specifically Excluded from^a Congressional Health Care Reform Proposals, 102d Congress-Continued

Intervention	Proposals
Cervical cancer screening	H.R. 3205 (Rostenkowski, D-IL) S. 1177 (Rockefeller, D-WV) S. 1227 (Mitchell, D-ME) H.R. 8 (Oakar, D-OH) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE) S. 2320 (Wellstone, D-MN) S. 2513 (Daschle, D-SD; Wofford, D-PA)
Colorectal cancer screening	H.R. 3205 (Rostenkowski, D-IL) S. 1177 (Rockefeller, D-WV) H.R. 8 (Oakar, D-OH) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE) S. 2320 (Wellstone, D-MN) S. 2513 (Daschle, D-SD; Wofford, D-PA)
Prostate cancer screening	H.R. 8 (Oakar, D-OH) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE) S. 2320 (Wellstone, D-MN)
Routine physical examinations	Excluded from S. 1227 (Mitchell, D-ME) and S. 1872 (Bentsen, D-TX)
Postnatal care	H.R. 3205 (Rostenkowski, D-IL) S. 1446 (Kerrey, D-NE) S. 2320 (Wellstone, D-MN) S. 2513 (Daschle, D-SD; Wofford, D-PA) H.R. 3229 (Dellums, D-CA)

^a All mentions are inclusions unless specifically noted (see routine physical examinations).

SOURCE: Adapted from U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, *Coverage of Preventive Services: Provisions of Selected Health Care Reform proposals*, OTA-BP-H-110 (Washington, DC: U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, October 1992).