

Figure A: Selected Provisions of Federal Health Care Reform Legislation Effective in 2010

Effective immediately:

Provide 2010 tax credits to offset health insurance premium costs for small businesses with fewer than 25 employees and average wages under \$50,000. Eligible businesses must contribute at least 50 percent of employees' premium.

Medicare beneficiaries who reach the "doughnut hole" will receive \$250 rebates for prescription drug costs.

Cost sharing for designated "proven" preventive services is eliminated in Medicare and private plans.

States have the option to provide Medicaid coverage to parents and childless adults up to 133% poverty at current Medicaid matching rates.

HHS secretary and states will establish a process for review of excessive premium increases.

90 days after passage:

Establish a national high-risk pool for people with preexisting conditions; \$5 billion appropriated.

Six months after passage:

Young adults under age 26 may stay on parents' plan.

Prohibits excluding coverage of children for preexisting conditions in the individual market.

Prohibits rescinding coverage once a person is enrolled in a plan.

Prohibits lifetime benefit caps and unreasonable annual limits.

Prohibits cost-sharing for preventive services.

Other 2010 provisions:

Require tobacco cessation coverage for pregnant women under Medicaid free of cost-sharing, effective October 1.

Expand community health centers and National Health Service Corps to provide increased access to care. \$11 billion over 5 years beginning in 2010.

Effective July 1, 2010, 10 percent tax on amounts paid for indoor tanning services.

Sources: HR 3590, Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; and HR 4872, Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.