Thomson Reuters - NPR Health Poll Finds Three-Quarters of Americans Support Government Insurance Subsidies for Birth Control Pills

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ANN ARBOR, Mich. and WASHINGTON, June 10, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- American consumers are broadly in favor of oral contraceptive coverage by both private and government-subsidized health insurance plans, according to the Thomson Reuters-NPR Health Poll.

(Logo: http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20090507/NY12658LOGO)

The poll, which addresses public attitudes toward birth control pills, was developed by Thomson Reuters and NPR as part of a new monthly series designed to gauge attitudes and opinions on a wide range of healthcare issues. Poll results are reported by NPR's Scott Hensley on the health blog Shots [1] and on air.

The poll finds that 77 percent of respondents believe private insurance should cover most or all cost of oral contraceptives, and 74 percent believe government-subsidized insurance plans should cover birth control pills.

Additionally, 78 percent said they believe the federal government should subsidize birth control and other family planning services, excluding abortion, at government-funded clinics for low-income women. Complete survey results are available here: http://www.factsforhealthcare.com/pressroom/NPR_report_OralContraceptives.pdf [2]

"Our survey findings provide a benchmark for public sentiment on issues that are continually dividing lawmakers, businesspeople and healthcare professionals," said Raymond Fabius, M.D., chief medical officer at the healthcare business of Thomson Reuters. "By pairing our robust data analytics with NPR's groundbreaking healthcare reporting, we're able to offer a valuable perspective on these critical issues."

"The polls let us delve into consumer attitudes about everything from flu vaccines to taxes on sugary drinks," said Hensley, NPR health correspondent and blogger. "The results provide a powerful and timely way to understand and
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SOURCE [3]

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