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The Effect Of Consumer-Directed Health Plans On The Use Of Preventive And Chronic Illness Services

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Abstract

We compared use of preventive, cancer screening, and diabetic monitoring services among 17,411 people who were continuously enrolled in a consumer-directed health plan (CDHP) for three years with a matched group of 128,444 people who were enrolled in a preferred provider organization (PPO). In the CDHPs, preventive and screening services were free. Levels and trends in use were similar between the two groups over the three years of follow-up. These results support varying the degree of cost sharing for services depending on the effect of the service on future health status and costs.

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