Examining the Health Care Needs and Preferences Of Women Ages 18 to 44.

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Introduction.

PerryUndem was commissioned by Planned Parenthood Action Fund to conduct a robust and rigorous study of women’s health care needs, experiences, and preferences for care. The study began in early 2016 with qualitative research. A national survey followed in the late fall of 2016. The goal of the research is to provide a resource for policymakers, media, health care stakeholders and other parties who want to understand how policy decisions and changes in health care may or may not meet the needs of women during their reproductive years.

PerryUndem is a non-partisan public opinion research firm based in Washington, DC. The firm has a long-standing practice of conducting research on health care policy issues. Our clients include the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Institute of Medicine, and the American Cancer Society.
Methods.

PerryUndem conducted a national survey among a total of $n = 3,062$ adults ages 18 to 44 from November 8 to December 8, 2016. The survey was administered online using GfK’s probability based KnowledgePanel. The survey includes two 20-minute questionnaires that the respondents completed at different times, about a week or so apart.

The survey was conducted in English and Spanish.

The margin of sampling error for the total results among women is $\pm 2.9$ percentage points. The margin of sampling error for the total among men is $\pm 4.5$ percentage points. The margins of error are higher for smaller subgroups within the samples.

The survey includes a nationally-representative sample of $n = 2,450$ women ages 18 to 44, including:

- $N = 504$ with employer coverage
- $N = 500$ with Medicaid coverage
- $N = 444$ with an ACA Marketplace plan
- $N = 500$ uninsured
- $N = 502$ other

And a representative sample of $n = 612$ men ages 18 to 44.
Majorities want a choice in having GP or OBGYN as main provider of care.

Some delivery system models and insurance plans require women to have a general practitioner as a main provider of routine care. The survey explored whether women would prefer a choice of types of providers. Nine in ten prefer a choice.
Women need different types of care.

In the past two years, what have been the main types of health care you needed? Select all that apply.

- Routine physical or check-up
- Dental care
- Vision/eye care
- Immunizations, like HPV or the flu vaccine
- Care for an ongoing health issue
- Mental health care
- Physical therapy
- Diet or nutrition counseling
- HIV testing
- STD testing and treatment
- Infertility care
- Help quitting smoking
- Treatment for drug use
- Treatment for alcohol use
- Well-woman visit or annual exam
- Pap tests
- Birth control
- Breast exams
- Prenatal care
- Mammogram
Think of your own experience. Which type of provider are you more likely to be open and honest with?

About six in ten women say they are more likely to be open and honest with their OBGYN than their GP.
Women are more likely to be very satisfied with care from OBGYNs v. GPs.

While majorities of women are satisfied with care from both GPs and OBGYNs, a higher proportion is “very” satisfied with their OBGYN care.