

October 8, 2009

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- Medpedia.com
- Journal of Women's Health
- Doctor's Digest

**Join AMWA Today!**

## American Medical Women's Association

This message contains graphics. If you do not see the graphics, [Click here to view](#)



### Save the Dates! 2010 Annual Meeting

**Friday, March 26 through Sunday, March 28**

AMWA will again team up with the Institute for Women's Health for the 2010 meeting, held at The Crystal Gateway Marriott in Crystal City, VA.

### Preparation for AMWA Day on the Hill 2010

Make your voices heard in health reform and other legislative matters. Join us Thursday March 25, 2010 for Advocacy Day immediately before the Women's Health Congress/ 95th year Anniversary AMWA Meeting. There will be a panel discussion in the morning and we will meet with our Legislators and/or their Health Legislative Assistants in the afternoon. If you are interested please RSVP to [lwatersMD@yahoo.com](mailto:lwatersMD@yahoo.com).

### Reform Matters Toolkit

An important part of AMWA's advocacy activities is to ensure that women's specific needs and the challenges are addressed within the health care system. The National Women's Law Center whose work focuses on women's health and health care coverage has a great advocacy and lobbying resource called the **Reform Matters Toolkit**. This Toolkit provides the resources women's advocates need to be full participants in the health care reform movement and policy debates at the state and national levels. The toolkit explores various health care reform proposals and their impact on women's access to comprehensive, affordable, quality care.

### AMWA Wants Your Feedback!

**How often do you read *NewsFlash*? Please participate in the [survey](#); it will take you less than one minute!**

AMWA's Donor Members include contributors who believe in AMWA's mission and goals through advocacy and our charitable programs. Donation categories are variable and affordable. To Donate Now, **Click HERE**. For those interested in Voting Membership categories, annual dues are as follows: Member, \$225; Discounted & Non-Physician Member, \$150; Resident Member, \$100; Medical Students, \$75 (one time fee); and Undergraduate Students, \$25 (one time fee).

### Donate to AWHS

Help AMWA maintain and expand vital programs by supporting the American Women's Hospitals Service. AWHS supports medical clinics for the underserved and international travel grants for young women physicians and medical students. Your gift to AWHS is fully tax deductible, and you will have the comfort of knowing that each AWHS-supported clinic's service and quality of care is monitored by AMWA physicians. You can see the stories of our clinics and read stories told by students who have received our travel grants posted on our website, [www.amwa-doc.org](http://www.amwa-doc.org). To order AWHS logo note cards, [click here for an AWHS Note card Order Form](#)

**AMWA thanks our Corporate Partners for their continued generous support:**







### Consider AMWA's Legacy Fund for Year End Donations

Construction on AMWA's permanent lobby exhibit at the Archives & Special Collections on Women in Medicine--the largest collection of material pertaining to the history of women in medicine in the US, is almost complete! Located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Archives will be part of Drexel University's new building for the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership. To secure this permanent exhibit space in the new building, AMWA will need to raise \$100,000 over the next year. Please consider a contribution to this worthy cause. Any amount will help us reach the goal. Donations of \$2,500 and above will be individually recognized in the lobby's The Wall of Fame display.

**Click here to donate now!**

### AMWA News

### Call for Physicians Interested in Global Health and Leadership

*Engeye Health Clinic, Uganda Seeks Resident Medical Director*

Passionate about providing healthcare abroad? Interested in applying your medical degree where it will make a difference? The **Engeye Health Clinic** in Ddegeya Village, Uganda is seeking a Resident Medical Director to partner with Ugandan clinic staff in operating the clinic and directing healthcare policy in the Ddegeya catchment area.

We are interested in bringing a seasoned physician onto our team who will be able to:

1. Review and update our current healthcare diagnosis and treatment protocols
2. Collaborate with Ugandan clinic staff in management of daily operations
3. Maintain a list of medical action items to be addressed and effectively communicate needs to the U.S. team
4. Practice medicine in Ddegeya Village for a minimum of 9 months

Previous international experience preferred.

If you are interested in this amazing opportunity, please contact [misty.richards@engeye.org](mailto:misty.richards@engeye.org). Additionally, for more information on Engeye's current operations and past achievements, please visit [www.engeye.org](http://www.engeye.org).

Engeye's mission is to improve living conditions and reduce unnecessary suffering in rural Africa through education and compassionate health care. Implicit in every project that we undertake is the understanding that it will ultimately be sustainable with little or no outside assistance. The Engeye Health Clinic is a non-profit organization built from the ground up in 2006 to provide healthcare for a village in desperate need. Since the first medical mission in 2007, over 15,000 patients have been treated. The clinic functions due to equal partnership between Ugandans and Americans who share a common goal of making the world a better place through practicing compassionate medicine.

### AMWA Member featured on Medelita Site



#### Leading Change in Women's Health

Since completing her OB/GYN residency in 1979, board-certified gynecologist Dr. Janice Werbinski (AMWA's Secretary) has been leading positive change in women's health — for those who seek better access to women-centric care, as well as those who provide it. In the process, she's inspired a new generation of independent, informed and empowered women, including her daughters. **Read her story.**

*Medelita continues to make it easy for AMWA members to purchase lab coats and scrubs tailored for female physicians. Check out the **AMWA** page to easily take advantage of your discount through Medelita. Be sure to tell your AMWA colleagues of this great member benefit! Medelita proudly supports AMWA in its mission to advance women in medicine and improve women's health. AMWA members receive a 15% discount orders. Medelita will also donate 10% of all member sales directly to the American Medical Women's Association.*

### National Initiative Tied to 19th Amendment Centennial Targets Full Equality for Women by 2020

**VISION 2020 Launches in Philadelphia. AMWA a National Partner.**



*VISION 2020 is a national project focused on advancing gender equality by energizing the dialogue about women and leadership. See at the launch event at the National Constitution Center are Eileen C. McDonnell, Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer, The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company; Richard V. Homan, M.D., Dean Drexel University College of Medicine (DUCOM); Lynn H. Yeakel, Director, Institute for Women's Health and Leadership DUCOM and Co-Chair Vision 2020; Rosemarie B. Greco, Co-Chair, Vision 2020; Robert Chappell, President and CEO, The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company; and Linda Johnson, President, National Constitution Center. The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company is lead sponsor of Vision 2020.*



(PHILADLEPHIA, PA September 14, 2009) By 2020, the centennial of the 19th Amendment's ratification, women and men will have equal access to leadership roles at all levels of American society, working together to shape every aspect of the country's future and making America stronger as a result.

That is the goal of Vision 2020, a national initiative launched on September 14, 2009 by Drexel University College of Medicine's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership. Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, the initiative's presenting (lead) sponsor, is contributing \$600,000 to the project. The **American Medical Women's Association** is a national partner of Vision 2020.

Vision 2020 aims to complete the work of the suffragists, who pursued women's right to vote as the gateway to full equality for their sex. While American women have made momentous strides since 1920, when the 19th Amendment was ratified, they continue to face substantial roadblocks. Women hold far fewer leadership positions than men and as a result have considerably less influence on many key areas of American life.

The first public event will take place in October 21-22, 2010 at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Experts in seven topic areas will meet over the next year, inviting 102 delegates — two women from each state and the District of Columbia, chosen through a competitive selection process — to create an action agenda for the decade 2010-2020. That agenda will be developed in the fall of 2010 at Vision 2020'S flagship event, *Vision 2020: An American Conversation About Women and Leadership*. The focus of the discussion will be on setting measurable objectives to advance equality for women by 2020, the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment.

Vision 2020 founding institutions, Drexel University College of Medicine and Drexel University, have long histories of opening doors for women and minorities. Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, established in 1850 as the world's first medical school for women, and Hahnemann Medical College, established in 1848, merged in 1993 as MCP/Hahnemann and became Drexel University College of Medicine in 2002. It was the first medical school in the country to fully integrate women's health into its curriculum. The Institute for Women's Health and Leadership was a designated a National Center of Excellence in Women's Health by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 1996. A core program of the Institute is the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership for Academic Medicine, the premiere leadership program for women in academic medicine.

Vision 2020 is the brainchild of former **Lynn H. Yeakel**, director of Drexel University College of Medicine's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership.

For more information about Vision 2020 [click here](#) or call 215-255-7373.

### **Advocacy Committee Update**

**September 9, 2009**---Representing AMWA, Dr. Omega Silva attended the Town Meeting with Constituent Organizations held by Francis Collins, MD, PhD, the new NIH Director at 1:30 in the Natcher conference Center on the NIH campus.

Dr. Collins, who trained as a chemist obtaining a PhD in that field, went on to medical school and developed an interest in genetics when a teacher introduced the class to

several patients with genetic problems---Downs syndrome, neurofibromatosis, galactosemia and others. He is delighted that President Obama sees science and openness as necessary for progress and that NIH exists to generate fundamental knowledge and to apply it to clinical medicine to make our lives better.

Dr. Collins sees opportunities in five areas:

1. Genomics as applied to fundamental biology in specific diseases.
2. Translating basic sciences into new and better therapies such as drugs and the use of public-private partnerships to develop the potential of the knowledge.
3. Putting science to work for health care reform with comparative effectiveness research and pharmacogenomics.
4. Global health with such diseases as malaria and schistosomiasis in cooperation with WHO and the Gates Foundation.
5. Reinvigorating and empowering the biomedical research community with training programs using the 10 billion NIH has received from the Recovery Act which will stimulate the economy, create and preserve jobs and advances biomedical research.

As Director he needs help in these areas:

1. Using the voices of the constituent organizations in support of medical research; let him hear your stories.
2. Describing NIH research to the public and Congress.
3. Communicating with wide open channels; let him hear of issues your organization would like NIH to consider.

*Want to help? Submit your stories relating to the areas noted above to [associatedirector@amwa-doc.org](mailto:associatedirector@amwa-doc.org) by **Friday, October 9.***

### **AMWA representative to the National Physicians Alliance**

**October 5, 2009**---Dr. Omega Silva participated as the AMWA representative to the National Physicians Alliance which along with the American Medical Students Association organized the National Grand Rounds on Health Care Reform. Dr. Silva posed a question on whether for profit health care organizations can be expected to provide care compatible with a universal health care model.

It was an informative experience for those colleagues in the audience as well as those on the web listening to the moderator, Dr. Arthur Kellermann and the distinguished panelists, Dr. Stephen Cha, Dr. Meena Sheshamani, and Dr. John McDonough giving their insightful answers. There were over 100 physicians and medical students attending in person in Washington DC at the Columbus Club in Union Station and approximately 1,000 physicians watching from around the country.

This is an exciting time for the medical profession, and hopefully this event furthered our understanding of the current debate on health care reform and our place within it as physicians or future physicians. Please share this event with colleagues through the archived webcast video at: <http://www.visualwebcaster.com/event.asp?id=62620> . The webcast will be available until the end of the calendar year.

The inaugural National Grand Rounds was a historic step in both educating physicians about health reform policy and in using state-of-the-art technology to reach a nationwide audience. The Alliance looks forward to developing similar events in the near future to build upon and improve on this event. Please take a few minutes to share your feedback on the **online evaluation** . Your input is greatly appreciated.

The American Medical Student Association (AMSA) and the National Physicians Alliance (NPA) Foundation will continue to provide you with the informational opportunities in this current debate and within health care policy. Please contact Dr. Valerie Arkoosh, President-Elect of the NPA at [val@npalliance.net](mailto:val@npalliance.net) or Farheen Qurashi, Jack Rutledge Legislative Director of **AMSA at [jrld@amsa.org](mailto:jrld@amsa.org)** with questions or for more information.

### **Are you involved in a local AMWA branch?**

AMWA headquarters is updating the branch listings, so please email your branch name and contact information to [associatedirector@amwa-doc.org](mailto:associatedirector@amwa-doc.org).

### **Reminder to AMWA Student and Resident Members**

A reminder about one time fees for Students and Residents:

- Undergraduate students- onetime fee of \$25
- Graduate/medical students- onetime fee of \$75
- Residents- onetime fee of \$100

If you are currently a Student or Resident member, please email your anticipated completion year to [associatedirector@amwa-doc.org](mailto:associatedirector@amwa-doc.org) so we can extend your membership.

### 2010 Award Nominations

Nominations for the 2010 AMWA Awards are now being accepted for the awards below.

#### Elizabeth Blackwell Award

This award, initiated in 1949 by Elise S. L'Esperance, M.D., is granted annually to a woman physician who has made the most outstanding contribution to the cause of women in the field of medicine.

#### Bertha Van Hoosen Award

This award is named in honor of the Founder and first President of AMWA, and honors a woman physician who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to AMWA, and has been an active member for at least five years.

#### Lila Wallis Women's Health

This award is given in the name of one of AMWA's most beloved Past Presidents. Each year, the award is given to an individual whose lifetime achievements, accomplishments, motivation, mentorship, energy and enthusiasm for women's health, education, and research reflect the trailblazing achievements and influences in women's health exemplified by Dr. Lila A. Wallis.

#### Woman in Science Award

This award is given to a woman physician who has made exceptional contributions to medical science, especially in women's health, through her basic and/or clinical research, her publications and through leadership in her field.

#### Anne C. Carter Leadership Award

This award honors the memory of Anne C. Carter, MD, and is in recognition of a national student leader in AMWA. *The award honors Dr. Carter's dedication to the welfare and success of all women medical students. Dr. Carter's life was a celebration of what women can achieve and contribute to others. For many years, Dr. Carter was Trustee of the Financial Aid Fund of AMWA's New York Branch 14, served as Chair of the Student Loan and Scholarship Committee, and on the AMWA Foundation Board.*

Email nomination and CV to [associatedirector@amwa-doc.org](mailto:associatedirector@amwa-doc.org) by November 1, 2009.

### Take a Stand for Women around the World with CARE

In honor of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on October 17, here are two simple ways that AMWA members can stand in solidarity with poor and marginalized women around the world:

--Read, learn and act! Encourage your book club, colleagues or members of your local AMWA branch to read the new book, "Half the Sky", by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. This moving book takes you on a journey through Africa and Asia to meet an extraordinary array of women who struggle and triumph in the face of poverty and oppression, including a woman in Burundi who becomes an empowered entrepreneur with the support of a CARE village savings and loan program. After reading the book, gather together at your next meeting, or at a local coffee house or living room, to start a conversation about the challenges and opportunities women and girls face around the world, and then take action together! For a discussion guide and more information visit [click here](#).

--Speak out! Providing economic opportunity for women is key to the fight against global poverty. Tell your member of Congress to support the **GROWTH Act** to help women around the world get the tools and resources they need to lift themselves and their families out of poverty. The act promotes microfinance tools like village savings and loan programs, enhanced land and property rights, and business training for women in developing countries.

Together, we have the power to help women around the world build a better future for all!

### Count Down to Universal Access

AMWA has put together a list of organizations that are working hard to ensure health care

reform. Keep up to date with the latest from Congress and how to take action to make your voice heard.

### **Physicians for a National Health Program**

To receive e-alerts go to the 'Sign up for PNHP's E Alerts' box on the homepage. Enter in your email address and state.

### **Healthcare-NOW!**

To receive e-alerts click on 'Healthcare-NOW! Updates' on the homepage. Click 'Sign Up' button under 'Sign up to receive monthly Healthcare-NOW! Email updates and/or action alerts'. Fill in and submit the form.

### **Progressive Democrats of America**

To receive e-alerts enter your email address and zip code in the 'Join Our Email List' box on the homepage.

### **Association of Women's Surgeons**

To receive e-alerts enter your email address in the 'Stay Informed' box on the homepage.

### **Center for Policy Analysis**

To join listserve, send blank email to: [join-equal@list.equalhealth.info](mailto:join-equal@list.equalhealth.info).

### **Universal Health Care Action Network (UHCAN)**

### **League of Women Voters**

### **National Physicians Alliance**

### **Health Care for All Colorado**

### **Doctors for America**

### **Raising Women's Voices**

## **Baucus Pushes to Wrap Up Health Bill**

**WASHINGTON** -- The chairman of the Senate Finance Committee said Thursday that he wanted to complete work on a sweeping health-care bill by nightfall, opening the way for Democratic leaders to bring the historic legislation to the floors of both the House and Senate as early as mid-October.

"I have high hopes of finishing today," Chairman Max Baucus (D., Mont.) said as he gaveled open the committee's seventh day of work on legislation embracing President Barack Obama's call for greater protections for those who have unreliable insurance or no coverage.

Mr. Baucus said his plans "might mean we go late tonight ... quite late." The committee has been meeting well into the evening most nights this week and last.

Finance is the only one of five committees in Congress that has yet to complete work on a health-overhaul bill. Once it finishes, Senate leaders can work to finalize a package to bring to the Senate floor.

**Read the full story at [wallstreetjournalonline.com](http://wallstreetjournalonline.com)**

**Protect Reproductive and Preventive Health Coverage  
Take Action!**



The debate over health care reform continues in Congress and around the country. The most recent, and contentious, debates currently focus on coverage for reproductive health and preventive care services.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation and the *New York Times*, nearly half of Americans with employer-sponsored health plans currently have policies that cover abortion. But certain members of Congress want to deny middle- and lower-income people, those who might receive help from the government in buying health insurance, the same coverage. Certain proposals under consideration would not only restrict the use of federal dollars to pay for abortion-which is the current law-it would go one step further by restricting these Americans from using subsidies on any health plans that cover abortion services.

This type of restriction would force private insurance companies to choose between eliminating abortion coverage for all insured members and being eligible to serve patients by receiving federal subsidies. As a result, many women who have this coverage now could lose it. Under certain proposals in the House and Senate, women who could afford it would have to pay extra for a "rider" policy to cover such services.

In addition, Sen. Jon Kyl (R-AZ) last week argued that insurance companies shouldn't be required to cover basic maternity care, **saying** "I don't need maternity care." Thankfully, Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) was there to stand up for these critical services, saying, "I think your mom probably did."

Poor women shouldn't be subjected to lower levels of reproductive and preventive care services simply because they can't afford it. Reproductive and preventive health services are a basic element of women's overall health care, and coverage of such services should be required. Health care reform should provide access to quality and affordable health care for all Americans-in a way that is equitable to all women.

### **Take Action!**

To urge your members of Congress to support legislation that provides Americans with access to quality, affordable health care that is equitable to women, just click on the "Take Action" link in the upper right corner or copy and paste the following URL into your Internet browser. Then follow the instructions to compose and send your message.

### **[Click Here to Take Action!](#)**

For more information, visit AAUW's **[health care issue page](#)** and read AAUW's **[health care position paper](#)**.

## **Women and Healthcare: Why Reform Needs to Happen**

### *Part One: Biology Matters*

Let's face it women's health needs are different than men's. Regular doctor visits are not a luxury but a requirement for women. By the time we begin our menstrual cycles and have graduated from puberty, annual visits to the gynecologist are a necessity to ensure our reproductive system is in good shape. Because women develop an early relationship to healthcare providers, seeing doctors becomes an integral part of our lives. Menstruation, contraception, pregnancy, childbirth and menopause entail continuous interactions with the healthcare system.

Our reproductive systems are not the only reason women see doctors more. Women are also prone to more chronic conditions, such as diabetes, asthma, and hypertension. Because of our reproductive organs we also contract a higher number of serious sexually transmitted diseases such as genital herpes, gonorrhea, Chlamydia and HIV. Without access to early detection of these STDs women's health can be in serious jeopardy.

Even with all the healthcare needs women face there are still more than 17 million American women without any coverage. Though many states have adopted Medicaid funded healthcare for women, for those - especially ages 18 to 40 - who earn incomes too high for Medicaid but are unable to gain coverage through an employer or spouse, their only option is privatized plans. This is where **BIOLOGY MATTERS**.

Private insurers are not required to follow the guidelines set forth by the Civil Rights Act, HIPAA or the Pregnancy Discrimination Act. This means there are no regulations on how they can determine premiums for women, and oftentimes they discriminate based on age, sex, and previous health conditions. Here are but a few obstacles women must face when trying to purchase private coverage.

**[Read the full story at campaignforgenderequality.org](#)**

**Policy, Legislation & Oversight**

## Senate Panel Rejects Tightening of Abortion Restrictions

By Robert Pear

**WASHINGTON** — The Senate Finance Committee on Wednesday rejected a Republican proposal to tighten restrictions on **abortion** in a bill to overhaul the health care system. The 13-to-10 vote followed party lines, with two exceptions. Senator **Kent Conrad**, Democrat of North Dakota, voted for the restrictions. Senator **Olympia J. Snowe**, Republican of Maine, voted against them.

The showdown over abortion came as the committee toiled for a sixth day on the legislation that is intended to provide coverage for millions of Americans while slowing the growth of health care costs. Under the bill, the government would help low- and middle-income people buy insurance by providing subsidies in the form of tax credits.

**Read the full story at [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)**

## Rate of Enrollment in Medicaid Rose Rapidly, Report Says

By Kevin Sack

The **recession** is driving up enrollment in **Medicaid** at higher than expected rates, threatening gargantuan state budget gaps even as Congress and the White House seek to expand the government **health insurance** program for the poor and disabled, according to a survey released Wednesday.

The annual **survey** of state Medicaid directors, conducted for the Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, found that the program had been spared the worst effects of massive state budget shortfalls because of federal aid in the **stimulus package**. But it also revealed grave concerns about what will happen when that relief dries up at the close of 2010.

As unemployment surged, enrollment in state Medicaid programs grew by an average of 5.4 percent in the previous fiscal year, the highest rate in six years, according to the Kaiser survey. In eight states, the growth exceeded 10 percent.

**Read the full story at [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com).**

### Health & Wellness

## Breast Cancer Awareness Challenge: [www.promisetome.com](http://www.promisetome.com)

There are many reasons why a woman might avoid or delay a mammogram. Despite increased awareness among women of the importance of screening and early detection of breast cancer, there are still numerous barriers that may prevent access to a mammogram, including the ability to afford a mammogram.

Beginning in October, in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Hologic is launching a patient outreach initiative via a new website: [www.promisetome.com](http://www.promisetome.com).

The "Promise to Me" project is focused on educating and empowering women to take steps to be proactive in their healthcare and challenge their friends and family to do the same!

Hologic has partnered with Remote Area Medical (RAM), a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to bringing healthcare services to underserved populations in remote areas in the U.S. and abroad. As part of the "Promise to Me" campaign for every 10 individuals that commit to making the promise to schedule a mammogram on the website, Hologic will contribute \$1 towards a mammogram for an uninsured woman.

**Learn more at [www.promisetome.com](http://www.promisetome.com) and take the pledge to be screened for breast cancer!**

## Second-Generation Female Condom is Available in the United States; FC2 Female Condom Will Cost 30 Percent Less Than Predecessor

**CHICAGO, IL**--October 1, 2009--The Female Health Company (FHC) (NASDAQ: FHCO) announced today that its second-generation FC2 Female Condom®, which received regulatory approval from the Food and Drug Administration in March as an HIV prevention method, is now available for purchase in the United States.

The company made the announcement in Atlanta at a meeting of the Southeastern Urban Initiative for Reproductive Health, a coalition of reproductive health advocates from Southern states that is advocating for increased federal funding for HIV prevention.

"America's HIV epidemic isn't going away. In fact, it's getting worse, and African American and Latino women are disproportionately impacted," said Dazon Dixon Diallo, Founder and President of SisterLove, a grassroots service organization that supports HIV/AIDS prevention and reproductive health programs for women in the Atlanta, Georgia region. "It's time to provide women in heavily impacted communities with expanded access to affordable women-controlled options, and the female condom becomes that choice. Women will use it if they have it."

"We're thrilled that FC2 is now available in the United States," said Mary Ann Leeper, FHC's senior strategic adviser, who will deliver a keynote address on the female condom and woman-initiated prevention at the Atlanta meeting. "We developed the female condom to provide women with access to HIV prevention that they can initiate. We know that women and men practice safer sex when they have access to more prevention methods, and we believe that access to the female condom can help millions of American women negotiate safer sex with their partners."

FC2 may be purchased from the Company's two public sector distributors:

Total Access Group, Inc. [www.totalaccessgroup.com](http://www.totalaccessgroup.com) Global Protection Corporation, [www.globalprotection.com/store](http://www.globalprotection.com/store).

In addition, FHC has launched a website, [www.fc2femalecondom.com](http://www.fc2femalecondom.com), which includes tiered pricing information for ordering a minimum quantity of 25,000 units directly from the Company. Price per unit declines based on the volume purchased. It is important to note that the maximum price to purchase FC2 from the Company's distributors is \$0.82/unit regardless of quantity, approximately a 30% decrease from the price paid for FC1.

### **FHC Makes Commitment to Expanded Access and Education**

Seven of the top 10 states ranked by the rate of AIDS cases are in the U.S. South. FHC is initiating a program to work with a number of southern reproductive health service organizations to provide free allotments of FC2 Female Condoms as part of an introductory awareness and education program, including training for health providers on how to integrate female condom education into reproductive health counseling.

Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that women represent a growing proportion of Americans living with HIV and AIDS. Over the past two decades, the percentage of women among all people living with HIV in the U.S. has increased from 8 percent to 27 percent. African American and Latino women are also disproportionately impacted by the epidemic. African American women account for 66 percent of new AIDS cases among American women, while Latino women are five times more likely than white women to be diagnosed with AIDS. The AIDS case rate is significantly higher in the U.S. South than in other regions of the country, and the prevalence of HIV and AIDS cases in some southern communities is comparable to prevalence figures for West Africa.

More than 70 reproductive health and HIV/AIDS advocacy organizations in the U.S. have called on donors and implementing agencies to expand women's access to the female condom, which remains the only safe and effective method of woman-initiated HIV prevention currently available.

FC2 will be available in certain retail outlets. As previously announced, FHC is seeking a partner with appropriate experience to promote FC2 directly to consumers in the US.

### **Recession Has Women Rethinking Childbearing**

Children appear to be another casualty of the recession: women are postponing pregnancy, and having fewer children. With the high costs of babies, and the pressure to start saving for college from the moment a child is born, many couples are deciding to wait to have children until the economy turns around. Others are considering not having children at all, or having fewer children than they had originally intended. At the same time, however, many women are finding themselves without health insurance to help cover the costs of their prescriptions, and are unable to continue getting their birth control pills. Even some who still have health insurance have reported stopping their birth control as one of their cost-saving measures each month. So just when the most women want to prevent pregnancy, many can't afford to do so. In a recent survey of 1000 low- and middle-income sexually active women between the ages of 18 and 39, almost half of the respondents reported that they want to delay pregnancy or have fewer children because

of economic concerns. Sixty-four percent agreed with the statement, "With the economy the way it is, I can't afford to have a baby right now." And while these women were expressing their concern over their ability to support a child, 23% reported having difficulty paying for birth control, and 18% said they were using birth control less consistently than in the past. Based on the results of this study, experts now fear an upswing in unintended pregnancies in the very population that can least afford to support a child.

[Read the full story on healthday.com](#)

## Professional Development



## ACI'S WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE DECEMBER 7-9, 2009 NEW ORLEANS

### LEARN ABOUT:

- Unique clinical and business strategies that compose Women's Center Care
- Learning how to develop an infrastructure to promote multidisciplinary care for women
- Designing, executing and sustaining a brand promise etc

**MEMBERS OF AMWA RECEIVE A \$300 DISCOUNT IF REGISTERED BY SEPTEMBER 30TH .** To learn more or register, visit our conference site [here!](#)

### Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month



Want to help save women's lives – and be eligible to win some great prizes, at the same time? As a partner in the Pearl of Wisdom Campaign to Prevent Cervical Cancer, AMWA encourages you to join in the campaign's "Wear Your Pearl!" promotion, launched this month during Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month. Help us get the word out to women that cervical cancer is preventable – using the Pap test, the HPV test and the HPV vaccine. To help get the conversation started, the campaign is asking women to wear their Pearl of Wisdom and submit to the campaign a photo of themselves wearing it. Photos can be fun or serious. Everyone who submits a photo will be eligible to win a fabulous

prize when the promotion ends on **October 31**. And, if you don't have a Pearl of Wisdom already, what are you waiting for? You can purchase one at [www.PearlofWisdom.us](http://www.PearlofWisdom.us). All proceeds go to the U.S. Pearl of Wisdom Campaign Fund to support cervical cancer prevention activities. For more information, visit [www.PearlofWisdom.us](http://www.PearlofWisdom.us).

**Compassion & Choices is proud to present DIGNITY & CHOICES, a Symposium on End-of-Life Advocacy, October 13-14, 2009.**



Conveniently held at the **National Press Club in Washington, DC**, the symposium promises to be a must-attend event for policymakers and opinion leaders engaged in health care reform. Plenary and break-out sessions will cover topics in areas of policy, politics, medicine and ethics.

Dr. Elmer Huerta, former President of American Cancer Society, America's favorite ballet dancer Jacques D'Amboise, and New York Times Columnist Jane Brody will make plenary presentations. **Learn**

[more here.](#)

### Who Should Attend?

Policymakers, opinion leaders and philanthropists interested in health care policy and reform. Medical, legal and religious leaders. Journalists, editors and professional medical writers. Advocates and supporters of the end-of-life care movement, including executive directors, board members, national and international leaders, medical directors, clinical managers, advocacy and outreach staff.

### Why Should You Attend?

Under new leadership, the nation has finally turned seriously to health care reform. End-of-life care has emerged as the most potent element of that reform. It is in end-of-life care that the current system most tragically fails patients and the people who love them. Too many people suffer needlessly in their dying, and we as a nation must do better. This symposium will alert us to aspects of the problem rarely discussed and illuminate the way forward.

**The Women's Alliance 2009 National Conference  
Celebrating Ten Years of Service**

**November 5 - 7**

**Chicago Marriott O'Hare Hotel**

***Sponsored by***

***Heartland Human Care Services and Bridge to Success***

Preparation for the November Conference is in full swing and it will be jam packed with vital information for surviving the current economy. We are running out of presentation time slots!

**When making your Thursday travel plans, make sure you arrive early enough to participate in a fabulous pre-conference session planned for Thursday night, November 5th, from 6:00 to 7:30.** This hilarious session, presented by Beyond the Good Life, will warm everyone up for the conference, helping to create a sense of connection and community. While having fun, you will discover how to create agreements that serve you, your partners & the organization; learn some strategies to stay grounded and calm in the times of chaos & challenge; and ways to identify early signs of common areas of burnout, fatigue & being overwhelmed.

**FRIDAY NIGHT: Special Evening Reception at Bridge to Success from 6:00 to 7:30 - Pre-registration needed!**

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

**Edith Crigler**, not only carried the Olympic Torch, but serves as Associate Executive Director of the Chicago Area Project and President of the Board of Directors for the Chicago Jobs Council. Edith not only talks the talk, she has walked the walk.

**Teri Goudie**, international media consultant and a former ABC News journalist, is considered one of the world's top trainers. Goudie teaches a simple five step method that is designed to turn words into action. Her method can be used in media interviews, presentations, meetings and email.

We also have **Angie Blumel**, Manager for Volunteer Services for the Chicago Architectural Foundation; **Cheyenne Brinson MBA, CPA**, TWA Board Treasurer and consultant with Karen Zupko and Associates; **Julie McClure** of New York Life Insurance; **Kacie Walters**, Knowledge Leader with Hewitt & Associates; **Colleen Pogany**, free lance web designer; **Jeanne Flint**, Executive Director WHW and TWA Board Vice President. And, more speakers are being lined up!

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES:**

**Members - \$150.00**

**Non-Members - \$199.00**

**One-Day Member - \$75.00**

**One-Day Non-Member - \$100.00**

**Registration fee includes: conference materials, one reception, two continental breakfasts, & two luncheons**

**FOR A CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM PLEASE EMAIL:**

**[svanveen@heartlandalliance.org](mailto:svanveen@heartlandalliance.org)**

**University of Arizona April and July 2010 Global Health Course**

APRIL 1-23 and JULY 12-30, 2010: GLOBAL HEALTH: CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY CARE (FCM 896A) at the University of Arizona is a full-time (80 class hours) interactive, practical course preparing fourth-year North American clinical medical students, residents and other clinicians for health care experience abroad. Visiting participants receive 3-4 weeks' elective credit at their home institution (which must arrange the actual overseas preceptorship). The class is limited to 24, selected by February 15 for the April session and May 15 for the July session. For information and application forms, **[click here](#)**.

or contact:

Ronald Pust, MD or Tracy Carroll, MPH, PT  
University of Arizona College of Medicine  
Dept. of Family and Community Medicine  
P.O. Box 245052

Arleen Heimann, program coordinator  
Phone: (520) 626-1992  
Email: [aheimann@email.arizona.edu](mailto:aheimann@email.arizona.edu)  
Tucson AZ 85724

## Membership Updates

### The STAR Doctor Medical Professional Liability Insurance Program for Women in Medicine



The Star Doctor Insurance Program provides Preferred Medical Professional Liability Insurance for Women Physicians. Coverage is available for most specialties.

The Star Doctor Insurance Program product is backed by an insurer who has provided Medical Professional Liability Insurance for over 35 years and is rated "A XIII" (Excellent) by A.M. Best Company.

Our program for Women in Medicine combines the value of competitive premiums with preferred and specialized features for Women Physicians who need to balance their personal and professional lives. (Some states are not eligible).

#### STAR Doctor Medical Professional Liability Insurance Highlights

- "Nose" or Prior Acts Coverage is available
- Affordable, part-time rates
- Free, automatic coverage for your locum tenens physician for up to 45 days
- Free, Unlimited Tail protection in the event of death, disability, or retirement (certain conditions may apply)
- Unlimited Tail available
- Legal Defense protection
- No deductible
- Defense expense paid in addition to the limit of liability
- Leave of absence features designed for new parents, illness, continuing education, and caring for family members
- Outstanding claim services

**For more information, please contact:** Jodie Cole, Senior Vice President, Ext. 222  
[jodiec@woodinsurancegroup.com](mailto:jodiec@woodinsurancegroup.com).

#### Medpedia.com

In order to raise the professional profiles of our members, facilitate group dialogue and increase the networking potential of the AMWA, we've joined Medpedia, the new technology platform for the global health community.

Medpedia is a long-term project, launched last week that includes three features: a collaborative knowledge base, a professional network and directory for health professionals and organizations, and communities of interest in which medical professionals and non-professionals can share information about conditions, treatments and lifestyle choices.

By joining Medpedia, physicians and PhDs will have the opportunity to create and edit medical articles, or opt to oversee content on a specialized topic and receive credit for it. Each member of our group can set up their own professional profile, viewable by the public, and participate in the AMWA discussion forum. We hope that this will open dialogue within our organization, and that you'll post questions or comments to the community on Medpedia.

Follow this link to join the group: <http://www.medpedia.com/groups/99-AMWA>

**Journal of Women's Health** is expanding its monthly Bulletin Board section to include more information on the following topics. Kindly put [JWH@liebertpub.com](mailto:JWH@liebertpub.com) on

your news alerts and/or let us know when there is news or new projects or programs that the women's health community should be aware of, such as:

- Centers of Excellence activities
- Fellowship announcements
- New women's health programs
- New funding opportunities
- Special events
- Advocacy activities

**If you are an AMWA member, and you are not taking advantage of your FREE online Journal Subscription, email [info@amwa-doc.org](mailto:info@amwa-doc.org) and we will send you the instructions on how to receive this great membership benefit!**

### **Doctor's Digest**

**NOW...Doctor's Digest ON THE IPHONE/IPOD TOUCH!!!** iPhone/iPod Touch users can download the Doctor's Digest "Essential Practice Tip" App from the "Medical" category in the Apple® App Store or from the iTunes store. HCPs receive a new tip downloaded twice per week to their iPhone/iPod Touch. **[Click here for more info.](#)**

ALSO...FOLLOW Doctor's Digest on Facebook ([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)) and on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/DoctorsDigest](http://www.twitter.com/DoctorsDigest))

#### **Doctor's Digest: May/June 2009 Primary Care and the Medical Home**

The idea of the primary care medical home is gaining support from payors and physicians alike. This issue talks about the technology and other tools you'll need to transform your practice, and how to get paid for practicing this type of patient-centered care.

#### **Doctor's Digest: March/April 2009 Accurate Billing and Coding**

As claims data is used for quality improvement projects and other purposes beyond reimbursement, getting coding right is more important than ever.

#### **Doctor's Digest: January/February 2009 Time Management**

Effective time management can make practices more efficient and profitable *and* improve the quality of physician's lives. This issue will offer practical tips and real-life examples for managing a busy schedule at work and at home.

#### **Doctor's Digest: Free E-Subscription, Podcasts and Vodcasts on Demand**

AMWA members and subscribers receive a free e-subscription to *Doctor's Digest*, access to all back issues and practice management podcasts and vodcasts on demand 24/7. Getting your free 2009 e-subscription and accessing the back issues is easy: just go to the ***Doctor's Digest*** page on AMWA's website and click on the link provided. Follow the links on [www.doctorsdigest.net](http://www.doctorsdigest.net) for access to the podcast and vodcast series.

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AMWA invites you to participate in our continued E-volution by giving us feedback about what you like or don't like about our weekly news and information e-mail. If you have suggestions regarding readability, content, timeliness, etc. send them to [amwa@fernley.com](mailto:amwa@fernley.com).

If you have been forwarded this message and would like to subscribe, please email [amwa@fernley.com](mailto:amwa@fernley.com) with your name and "subscribe to e-newsletter" in the subject line.

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