

Secretary

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services One Ashburton Place, Room 1109 Boston, Massachusetts 02108

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March 1, 2019

Dear Health Care Provider:

The Baker-Polito Administration is committed to providing women in Massachusetts with access to comprehensive, reliable and safe contraceptive care. Massachusetts leads the country on health care access and coverage because of your extraordinary efforts; but we know additional work is needed to address gaps in contraceptive access.

Building on this commitment, the Commonwealth has partnered with Upstream USA and Boston Medical Center to provide training, technical assistance, and quality improvement to health care providers at no financial cost to you. This initiative aims to ensure that women across the Commonwealth – regardless of insurance status or where they receive care – have access to the full range of birth control options and quality contraceptive counseling.

It is my hope that you share in this commitment and will collaborate with Upstream USA and Boston Medical Center on this important initiative. Unplanned pregnancies are associated with poor maternal and infant health outcomes, including delayed prenatal care and premature birth, particularly among some of our most vulnerable women. Within our communities, we also witness the many ways in which unintended pregnancies can disrupt plans or derail opportunities for women and families.

Thank you for your commitment to the health of our Commonwealth and for your consideration of this important health care initiative for women and families.

Sincerely,

Marylou Sudders