



WI CAN News Digest

May 13 - June 14, 2019

Wisconsin

[New Legislation Would Allow Wisconsin Pharmacists To Prescribe Hormonal Birth Control](#)

A bill was introduced in the State Assembly by Reps. Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) and Felzkowski (R-Irma) that would allow pharmacists to prescribe hormonal birth control. Currently, only physicians may prescribe hormonal birth control in Wisconsin. **5.23.19**

[Republicans Pass Abortion Restrictions as Some Get Behind Making Birth Control Easier to Get](#)

In addition to the pharmacist bill (above), this article reports that Republicans in the state Assembly passed a bill eliminating remaining public funding for Planned Parenthood. **5.15.19**

[Republicans Stand by Rejection of Medicaid Expansion](#)

The Wisconsin Joint Finance budget committee voted to reject Governor Evers' plan to expand Medicaid, turning down more than \$1 billion in federal funding and \$324 million in state money savings. **6.4.19**

[State Senate Sends 'Born Alive' Abortion Bill To Evers' Desk](#)

The State Senate sent several bills restricting abortion access to Governor Evers' desk. Evers vows to veto. **6.5.19**

National

[Faith-based Clinics Sue HHS over Family Planning Program Rules](#)

The Obria Group, a California chain of clinics, is suing the US Department of Health and Human Services holding that requirements attached to Title X funds infringe on their First Amendment rights. The religiously-affiliated clinic group is opposed to the requirement that recipients of Title X funds must offer patients contraception and provide counseling that includes discussion of abortion. **5.20.19**

[All the States Taking up New Abortion Laws in 2019](#)

Over 400 abortion restrictions have been introduced in states across the U.S. in 2019. **5.27.19**

[UCSF Medical Center Backs Off Plan to Deepen Ties with Dignity Health](#)

UCSF discontinued its plan to further affiliate with Dignity Health, a Catholic hospital system, in reaction to protests by UCSF faculty and staff that Dignity Health restricts care (including reproductive health care, end-of-life care, and LGBTQ care) on the basis of religious doctrine. **5.28.19**

[Rep. Gwen Moore's 'Mamas First Act' Looks to Stop Infant, Mother Deaths in Low-Income Communities](#)

US Rep. Gwen Moore (D-Milwaukee) introduced the “Mamas First Act” to expand Medicaid coverage for doulas. A pilot program for doulas for 100 mothers in one Milwaukee zip code was approved by the city in March. **6.6.19**

[Court Issues New Nationwide Injunction on Contraceptive Mandate](#)

A Texas federal district court issued a permanent injunction against the ACA's contraceptive mandate. The court found that the contraceptive mandate and the Obama-era accommodations process for religious entities violate the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and can no longer be enforced by the federal government against those who object to contraceptive coverage. **6.10.19**

[Barriers to Care Experienced by Women in the United States](#)

Kaiser Health News, in conjunction with the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, released an infographic illustrating the barriers to care experienced by women in the United States. The infographic shows that women have higher healthcare costs and a higher uninsured rate, but also indicates that cost barriers to contraception have gone down for insured women since the ACA's coverage requirement took effect. **6.11.19**

[Trump Administration Rule Would Undo Health Care Protections For LGBTQ Patients](#)

Planned Parenthood has sued the US Department of Health and Human Services to block a federal conscience rule that would allow healthcare workers to refuse to provide services for religious or moral reasons, alleging the rule encourages discrimination. **6.12.19**

[Democrats Roll Out Proposal Requiring Insurance to Cover OTC Birth Control](#)

U.S. Rep. Ayanna Presley (D-Mass) and Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash) introduced a bill to require insurers to cover birth control available over the counter without cost sharing. **6.13.19**