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GUIDELINES UNCHANGED

The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) amended its guidelines for mammography screening from beginning at age 40 to recommending that screening begin at age 50, unless there are specified risk factors present. This has raised an uproar both in the medical community and the general population.

The USPSTF based its decision on statistical data reflecting the number of false positives generated by the earlier screenings which result in unnecessary testing, procedures and anxiety.

Many physicians contend that the new recommendations are misguided and raised concerns that health insurance carriers will be influenced to deny coverage for

mammographies prior to age 50. The good news, however, is that at least for now most carriers will not change



their guidelines. This also appears to be true for screening for cervical cancer for which the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) is now recommending less frequent screening for women in their 20's.



We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very

Happy, Healthy and Joyous Holiday Season as well as a Prosperous New Year!

We value our relationship and enjoy working with each and everyone of you!

We look forward to 2010 with a renewed spirit and stand ready to assist you with all your clients employee benefits needs.



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