Dear Jolie Matthews,

A friend alerted me to this paper and the time for comments.

I am commenting on HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN NETWORK ACCESS AND ADEQUACY MODEL ACT.

I am specifically referring to Section 8 and the issue of gender.

The reason that gender is a criteria, is because many people exercise their Constitutional rights under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and The Federal Nursing Home Reform Act (“OBRA 87”).

**There is a reason that gender is included in directory listings.** The problem is that once you get there, nurses, PAs, technicians, etc. who may be necessary for treatment are of the opposite gender of the physician.

There needs to be the additional criteria for the "gender of other personnel" AND "can accommodate request for same gender care."

What caught my attention was that this paper is being discussed in "narrow networks." By adding the additional criteria of "requiring networks to be broad enough to accommodate request for same gender care," can further the original intent of including the gender criteria originally.

If you have any questions regarding my recommendations, or need clarification on anything, do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you,

--Archie Banterings

"You cannot offend me, but you are welcome to try."