

Oregonians should note the pivotal text in the bill is the phrase "of medically necessary", but neither the new text nor the text of the statute the bill amends defines that phrase:

SB 451

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2025R1/Measures/Overview/SB451>

...

(2) A carrier offering a group health benefit plan or an individual health benefit plan in this state that reimburses the cost of cervical cancer examinations may not impose deductibles, coinsurance, copayments or other out-of-pocket costs on the coverage of medically necessary:

(a) Cervical cancer examinations; and

(b) Follow-up examinations used to evaluate an abnormality seen or suspected from a cervical cancer examination

...

That omission is noteworthy. In the several years we have seen research reports like this one from one of the US's major medical schools:

Cervical Cancer Screening Tests Often Overused, Study Finds (5/24/2021)

<https://www.cuimc.columbia.edu/news/cervical-cancer-screening-tests-often-overused-study-finds>

Cervical cancer screening tests—Pap smears and HPV tests—are frequently overused among commercially insured women with average risk of developing cancer, a new study from researchers at Columbia University's Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons and Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center finds.

...

SB 451 is yet another example why the Democrat majority should amend Oregon law and the Legislature's rules to make the LC's files about a bill public records immediately when the bill is introduced for consideration in a legislative session. Sen. Patterson, Rep. Nosse, Sen. Reynolds, Rep. Grayber and Rep H. Pham should sponsor or co-sponsor legislation to do that.