Most abortion patients have health coverage. Removing financial barriers could help women obtain an abortion earlier in pregnancy, when it's safer.

Most abortion patients have health coverage:
- 33% No health insurance
- 31% Medicaid
- 30% Private health insurance
- 5% Other

But most women pay out of pocket for their abortion:
- 57% out of pocket (often because of lack of insurance coverage or lack of coverage for abortion, or to ensure confidentiality)
- 20% Medicaid (in states that cover abortion with their own funds, 92% of eligible patients use this coverage)
- 13% Financial assistance (e.g., a grant, a loan or reduced fees)
- 12% Private health insurance
- 2% Other (e.g., a loan from friends or family)

In 2008, the average cost of a first-trimester abortion was $470. Lower-income women are more likely to be uninsured.

Federally funded Medicaid funds cover abortion only in cases of rape, incest and life endangerment. And only 17 states have policies to use their own funds to cover abortions for women on Medicaid.

Lacking insurance coverage, poor and low-income women often need considerable time to come up with the money to pay for an abortion.

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