

designated officer of emergency response employees shall, to the extent practicable, immediately notify each of such employees who—

- (1) responded to the emergency involved; and
- (2) as indicated by guidelines developed by the Secretary, may have been exposed to an infectious disease.

(b) Certain contents of notification to employee

A notification under this subsection to an emergency response employee shall inform the employee of—

- (1) the fact that the employee may have been exposed to an infectious disease and the name of the disease involved;
- (2) any action by the employee that, as indicated by guidelines developed by the Secretary, is medically appropriate; and
- (3) if medically appropriate under such criteria, the date of such emergency.

(c) Responses other than notification of exposure

After receiving a response under paragraph (3) or (4) of subsection (d) of section 300ff-133 of this title, or a response under subsection (g)(1) of such section, the designated officer for the employee shall, to the extent practicable, immediately inform the employee of the response.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVI, § 2695D, as added Pub. L. 111-87, § 13, Oct. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 2901.)

§ 300ff-136. Selection of designated officers

(a) In general

For the purposes of receiving notifications and responses and making requests under this part on behalf of emergency response employees, the public health officer of each State shall designate 1 official or officer of each employer of emergency response employees in the State.

(b) Preference in making designations

In making the designations required in subsection (a), a public health officer shall give preference to individuals who are trained in the provision of health care or in the control of infectious diseases.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVI, § 2695E, as added Pub. L. 111-87, § 13, Oct. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 2901.)

§ 300ff-137. Limitation with respect to duties of medical facilities

The duties established in this part for a medical facility—

- (1) shall apply only to medical information possessed by the facility during the period in which the facility is treating the victim for conditions arising from the emergency, or during the 60-day period beginning on the date on which the victim is transported by emergency response employees to the facility, whichever period expires first; and
- (2) shall not apply to any extent after the expiration of the 30-day period beginning on the expiration of the applicable period referred to in paragraph (1), except that such duties shall apply with respect to any request under section 300ff-133(c) of this title received by a medical facility before the expiration of such 30-day period.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVI, § 2695F, as added Pub. L. 111-87, § 13, Oct. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 2901.)

§ 300ff-138. Miscellaneous provisions

(a) Liability of medical facilities, designated officers, public health officers, and governing entities

This part may not be construed to authorize any cause of action for damages or any civil penalty against any medical facility, any designated officer, any other public health officer, or any governing entity of such facility or officer for failure to comply with the duties established in this part.

(b) Testing

This part may not, with respect to victims of emergencies, be construed to authorize or require a medical facility to test any such victim for any infectious disease.

(c) Confidentiality

This part may not be construed to authorize or require any medical facility, any designated officer of emergency response employees, or any such employee, to disclose identifying information with respect to a victim of an emergency or with respect to an emergency response employee.

(d) Failure to provide emergency services

This part may not be construed to authorize any emergency response employee to fail to respond, or to deny services, to any victim of an emergency.

(e) Notification and reporting deadlines

In any case in which the Secretary determines that, wholly or partially as a result of a public health emergency that has been determined pursuant to section 247d(a) of this title, individuals or public or private entities are unable to comply with the requirements of this part, the Secretary may, notwithstanding any other provision of law, temporarily suspend, in whole or in part, the requirements of this part as the circumstances reasonably require. Before or promptly after such a suspension, the Secretary shall notify the Congress of such action and publish in the Federal Register a notice of the suspension.

(f) Continued application of State and local law

Nothing in this part shall be construed to limit the application of State or local laws that require the provision of data to public health authorities.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVI, § 2695G, as added Pub. L. 111-87, § 13, Oct. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 2902.)

§ 300ff-139. Injunctions regarding violation of prohibition

(a) In general

The Secretary may, in any court of competent jurisdiction, commence a civil action for the purpose of obtaining temporary or permanent injunctive relief with respect to any violation of this part.

(b) Facilitation of information on violations

The Secretary shall establish an administrative process for encouraging emergency response employees to provide information to the Secretary regarding violations of this part. As ap-

propriate, the Secretary shall investigate alleged such¹ violations and seek appropriate injunctive relief.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVI, §2695H, as added Pub. L. 111-87, §13, Oct. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 2902.)

§ 300ff-140. Applicability of part

This part shall not apply in a State if the chief executive officer of the State certifies to the Secretary that the law of the State is substantially consistent with this part.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVI, §2695I, as added Pub. L. 111-87, §13, Oct. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 2903.)

SUBCHAPTER XXV—REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior subchapter XXV (§300aaa et seq.), comprised of title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, act July 1, 1944, ch. 373, §§2701 to 2714, was renumbered title II, part B, §§231 to 244, of the Public Health Service Act, and transferred to part B (§238 et seq.) of subchapter I of this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-204, title VI, §604(a)(1), Sept. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 2938, substituted “REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE” for “ASSURING PORTABILITY, AVAILABILITY, AND RENEWABILITY OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE” as subchapter heading.

PART A—INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP MARKET REFORMS

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-148, title I, §1001(1), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 130, substituted “Individual and Group Market Reforms” for “Group Market Reforms” in part heading.

SUBPART 1—GENERAL REFORM

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-148, title I, §§1201(1), 1255, formerly §1253, title X, §10103(e), (f)(1), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 154, 162, 895, substituted “general reform” for “portability, access, and renewability requirements” in subpart heading, effective for plan years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2014.

§ 300gg. Fair health insurance premiums

(a)¹ Prohibiting discriminatory premium rates

(1) In general

With respect to the premium rate charged by a health insurance issuer for health insurance coverage offered in the individual or small group market—

(A) such rate shall vary with respect to the particular plan or coverage involved only by—

(i) whether such plan or coverage covers an individual or family;

(ii) rating area, as established in accordance with paragraph (2);

(iii) age, except that such rate shall not vary by more than 3 to 1 for adults (consistent with section 300gg-6(c) of this title); and

(iv) tobacco use, except that such rate shall not vary by more than 1.5 to 1; and

(B) such rate shall not vary with respect to the particular plan or coverage involved by any other factor not described in subparagraph (A).

(2) Rating area

(A) In general

Each State shall establish 1 or more rating areas within that State for purposes of applying the requirements of this subchapter.

(B) Secretarial review

The Secretary shall review the rating areas established by each State under subparagraph (A) to ensure the adequacy of such areas for purposes of carrying out the requirements of this subchapter. If the Secretary determines a State's rating areas are not adequate, or that a State does not establish such areas, the Secretary may establish rating areas for that State.

(3) Permissible age bands

The Secretary, in consultation with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, shall define the permissible age bands for rating purposes under paragraph (1)(A)(iii).

(4) Application of variations based on age or tobacco use

With respect to family coverage under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, the rating variations permitted under clauses (iii) and (iv) of paragraph (1)(A) shall be applied based on the portion of the premium that is attributable to each family member covered under the plan or coverage.

(5) Special rule for large group market

If a State permits health insurance issuers that offer coverage in the large group market in the State to offer such coverage through the State Exchange (as provided for under section 18032(f)(2)(B) of this title), the provisions of this subsection shall apply to all coverage offered in such market (other than self-insured group health plans offered in such market) in the State.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVII, §2701, as added and amended Pub. L. 111-148, title I, §1201(4), title X, §10103(a), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 155, 892.)

ENACTMENT OF SECTION

For delayed effective date of section, see Effective Date note below.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 300gg, act July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVII, §2701, as added Pub. L. 104-191, title I, §102(a), Aug. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 1955; amended Pub. L. 111-3, title III, §311(b)(2), Feb. 4, 2009, 123 Stat. 70; Pub. L. 111-5, div. B, title I, §1899D(c), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 426; Pub. L. 111-344, title I, §114(c), Dec. 29, 2010, 124 Stat. 3615; Pub. L. 112-40, title II, §242(a)(3), Oct. 21, 2011, 125 Stat. 419, was renumbered section 2704 of act July 1, 1944, effective for plan years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2014, with certain exceptions, and amended, by Pub. L. 111-148, title I, §§1201(2), 1563(c)(1), formerly §1562(c)(1), title X, §10107(b)(1), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 154, 264, 911, and was transferred to section 300gg-3 of this title. Prior to amendment and transfer by Pub. L. 111-148, text of section 300gg read as follows:

¹ So in original.

¹ So in original. No subsec. (b) has been enacted.