

5.4 MEDICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Policy: Title X clinical quality is assured through the Montana Title X Family Planning Medical Standards Committee and the Montana Title X Protocol Development Committee.

Procedure:

Montana Title X Family Planning Medical Standards Committee

1. The Montana Title X Family Planning Medical Standards Committee develops and maintains the Montana Title X Family Planning Clinical Protocol manual.
2. The manual is reviewed and updated on a yearly basis or as needed.
3. The committee consists of 5-8 statewide members and meets at least annually to review and revise standards as needed.
4. The WMHS Nurse Consultant serves as the committee coordinator.
5. Standards are primarily developed based on: the Title X Program Requirements; The QFP; federal, state, and local statutes; evidence based literature, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) STD Guidelines; and appropriate professional organizations' standards. Standards are included in the Montana Title X Family Planning Administrative and Clinical Protocol manuals
6. Title X clinic staff is surveyed for issues and topics that may need to be addressed by the Montana Title X Family Planning Medical Standards Committee.
7. Compliance to standards is assured through IMAs, program reviews, and elective clinical audits as needed.

Montana Title X Family Planning Protocol Development Committee

1. The Montana Title X Family Planning Protocol Development Committee develops and revises protocols to be submitted to the Montana Title X Family Planning Medical Standards Committee for review and approval.
2. The committee consists of 3-5 local mid-level Title X providers who meet via conference calls or webinar (e.g. WebEx) at least quarterly and more often as needed.
3. The WMHS Nurse Consultant serves as the committee coordinator.
4. Title X clinics may develop individual local Title X protocols that are submitted to the state office for review. Local Title X policies and protocols can be more stringent than the state policies and protocols but may not be less stringent.
5. Policies for non-Title X services are not required to be submitted to the state office for review.