

### 8.1.1 GENERAL CLINICAL INFORMATION

**Policy:** The Montana Title X Family Planning Program strives to provide high quality reproductive and preventive health care to its clients.

Title X assists individuals and couples in planning and spacing births, contributing to positive birth outcomes and improved health for women, men and infants.

The Clinical section of the Montana Title X Family Planning Administrative Manual provides Title X clinics with administrative clinical policies for the implementation of Title X services. These policies are based on the Title X Program Requirements, QFP, requirements of the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) Women's and Men's Health Section (WMHS), relevant federal and state statutes, and professional medical organizations.

**Quality Title X family planning** care includes the following attributes:

1. Confidentiality
2. Safety
3. Effectiveness
4. Client-centered approach
5. Timeliness
6. Efficiency
7. Accessibility
8. Equity and value

#### Procedure

1. Title X providers must offer all family planning services to female and male clients, including adolescents, as described in the MT TX FP Administrative Manual, Policy 8.3.1 *Determining Need for Services*. Other related or other preventive health services that are beyond the scope of Title X may be offered either on-site or by referral.
2. All Title X clinics must provide for medical services related to family planning and the effective use of contraceptive devices and practices including provider's consultation, examination, prescription, continuing supervision, laboratory examination, contraceptive supplies, as well as necessary referrals to other medical facilities when medically indicated (*42 CFR 59.5(b)(1)*). This includes, but is not limited to emergencies that require referral.
3. Title X providers must be trained and equipped to offer all family planning and related preventive health services so that they can provide optimal care to clients, with referral to specialty care as needed.
4. All Title X clinics must provide clinical services in compliance with applicable federal and state laws. This includes, but is not limited to, Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) standards, Clinic Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) '88, Montana HB 239 - Infectious Waste Management, and *MCA 37-2-104 Dispensing of drugs by medical practitioners unlawful--exceptions*. OSHA regulations apply to federal and private entities but not to state and local governments in their role as employers. However, private non-profit organizations are bound by these rules. All programs are strongly encouraged to follow OSHA standards.
5. The clinical care component of the Title X clinic must operate under the responsibility of a medical director who is a licensed and qualified physician with special training or experience in family planning (see MT TX FP Administrative Manual, Policy 4.1 *Title X Personnel*).