

1.5 PROHIBITION OF ABORTION

Policy: Title X clinics must be in full compliance with *Section 1008 of the Title X statute and 42 CFR 59.5(a)(5)*, which states Title X clinics may not provide, promote, refer for, or support abortion as a method of family planning. See Clinical Protocol Manual Policy 7-1 Positive Pregnancy Test for additional information.

Permissible Abortion Activities:

Referrals for abortion may only be made in the cases of: a medical emergency, or if the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.

Non-permissible abortion activities

Non-permissible activities relating to abortion as identified in *42 CFR 59.14 and 59.16*:

1. A Title X project may not perform, promote, refer for, or support abortion as a method of family planning, nor take any other affirmative action to assist a patient to secure such an abortion.
2. A Title X project may not use the provision of any prenatal, social service, emergency medical, or other referral, of any counseling, or of any provider lists, as an indirect means of encouraging or promoting abortion as a method of family planning.
3. Project staff may not identify health care providers who provide abortion either verbally or by the provision of a list.
4. Title X staff cannot take affirmative action to assist a woman to obtain an abortion for family planning purposes.
5. Title X staff cannot lobby for the passage of legislation to increase in any way the availability of abortion as a method of family planning while on work time or provide speakers or educators who promote the use of abortion as a method of family planning.
6. Allow employees to attend events or conferences during which the employee engages in lobbying during work time.
7. Pay dues to any group that, as a more than insignificant part of its activities, advocates abortion as a method of family planning and does not separately collect and segregate funds used for lobbying purposes.
8. Initiate legal action to make abortion available in any way as a method of family planning;
9. Develop or disseminate in any way materials (including printed matter, audiovisual materials and web-based materials) advocating abortion as a method of family planning.