

5.4 MEDICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Policy: Title X clinical quality is assured through the Montana Title X Family Planning Medical Standards Committee. The Montana Title X Family Planning Medical Standards Committee develops, revises, and maintains the Montana Title X Family Planning Clinical Protocol manual in accordance with nationally recognized standards of care (*Title X Program Requirement 9.6*).

Procedure:

Montana Title X Family Planning Medical Standards Committee

1. The MT TX Family Planning Clinical Protocol Manual is reviewed and updated on a yearly basis or as needed.
2. The committee consists of at least 5 statewide members and meets at least annually to review and revise standards as needed.
3. The FPP Nurse Consultant serves as the committee coordinator.
4. Standards are primarily developed based on: 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.
5. 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.
6. Policies for non-Title X services are not required to be submitted to the state office for review.
7. Compliance to standards is assured through IMAs, program reviews, and elective clinical audits as needed.