

Title: Pregnancy Diagnosis and Counseling	Policy Number: 2.9
Approved By: Joe Holliday MD, MPH	Program Area: Family Planning
Effective Date: 1970	Revised Date: 1/13/11

Purpose Statement of Policy:

To assure that pregnancy diagnosis and counseling are provided to all women seeking family planning services provided by Title X.

Definition:

Defined within the Pregnancy Diagnosis and Counseling policies the following areas must be addressed:

- Pregnancy diagnosis and counseling to all clients in need of this service must be provided.
- For those clients with a positive pregnancy test result, projects must offer the opportunity to be provided information and counseling regarding each of the following options: prenatal care and delivery, infant care, foster care or adoption, or pregnancy termination.
- If requested to provide such information and counseling, provide neutral, factual information and nondirective counseling on each of the options, and referral upon request, except with respect to any option(s) about which the pregnant woman indicates she does not wish to receive such information and counseling.
- Follow up of family planning patients with positive pregnancy test to assure patients have access to health care providers.
- If ectopic pregnancy is suspected, the client must be referred for immediate diagnosis and therapy.
- Pregnancy testing may serve as an entry point for providing education and counseling about family planning or assisting clients with fertility awareness who are planning a pregnancy who are not currently pregnant.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the local health department and its designated personnel to develop, implement, and ensure compliance among all staff on the administration of the Pregnancy Diagnosis and Counseling policy for clients seeking care in the Family Planning Clinic provided by Title X.

Policy:

The local health department will ensure that written policies are in place that address the above required areas in the definition section for provision of pregnancy diagnosis

and counseling for women seeking such care in the Family Planning Clinic provided by Title X.

Legal Authority:

This policy is based on Title X regulations (January, 2001) Section 8.6 concerning pregnancy diagnosis and counseling.

References:

Title X Guidelines can be accessed at:

https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/servlet/document.DownloadPdfPublicServlet?document_id=7157

For examples of policies from the local level, please contact your Regional Women's Health Nurse Consultant.