

Volume 2, Issue 1

March 22, 2019

### *Medical Committee Meetings*

- April 11,  
Iowa City
- July 11, 9 am  
Conference Call
- Oct 10, 10:30 am  
Iowa City

### *Trainings*

- Mar 27  
Webinar: HPV Related  
Cancers
- May 9 @ 8:30 am,  
Webinar: Substance  
Use in Iowa
- May 22 @ 9:30 am,  
Billing/Coding Work-  
shop,  
Learning Resource Cen-  
ter, West Des Moines
- July 17 @ 8:30 am,  
Webinar: Human Traf-  
ficking
- Sept 17: Family Plan-  
ning Update,  
Hilton Garden Inn,  
West Des Moines

## Introduction by FPCI's Medical Director

Dear Title X Medical Directors: Below you will find the current issue of the Title X Medical Director Newsletter. This issue includes rules for Title X programs that were issued in March 2019, as well

as minutes from the most recent Family Planning Council of Iowa (FPCI) meeting, and notices about educational programs that might be of interest. If you have any questions about the information or sug-

gestions for future newsletters, please feel free to contact me. My e-mail address is [noelle-bowdler@uiowa.edu](mailto:noelle-bowdler@uiowa.edu). I will look forward to this contact with you.

## Title X Family Planning

The Office of Population Affairs issued new rules on March 4, 2019 revising some Title X regulations. The changes specifically related to clinical services will be listed in this article.

Title X requires clinics to provide a broad range of acceptable and effective medically approved family planning methods, as well as other family planning services, but now there is a push for fertility awareness-based methods and not necessarily "medically approved methods." A single project now may offer only a single method or a limited number of methods as long as the entire project offers a broad range of family planning methods and services.

Title X requires adolescent counseling that encourages family participation in the decision to seek family planning services, but now adds that records must "document the specific actions taken to

encourage such family participation (or the specific reason why such family participation was not encouraged)."

In the past, Title X has provided nondirective pregnancy options counseling, which consisted of providing information about prenatal care and delivery; infant care, foster care, or adoption; and pregnancy termination. Neutral, factual and nondirective information and counseling were provided if a woman requested information on any of these options. The new rule says, "Because Title X funds are intended only for family planning, once a client is medically verified as pregnant, she shall be referred to a health care provider for medically necessary prenatal health care." If a client decides she wants an abortion, the client may be provided a list of "licensed, qualified, comprehensive primary health care providers (including providers of prena-

tal care), some, but not the majority, of which also provide abortion as part of their comprehensive health care services. Neither the list nor project staff may identify which providers on the list perform abortion."

Many of the other changes relate to physical and financial separation relating to abortion; prohibition of activities that encourage, promote, or advocate for abortion; reporting requirements; and the appropriate use of funds.

The changes that relate to clinical services must be in place by May 3, 2019. Compliance with the financial separation must be accomplished by July 2, 2019, and the physical separation requirement by March 4, 2020. There are many law suits across the nation requesting an injunction against these rules. See the complete pdf document at [Federal Register](#).