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1:44PM EDT

Owner Joan  
Hendrickson:  
Director of  
Inpatient  
Services  
Policy Area Family Birth  
Center

## Reproductive Health Care Policy

### Purpose

Define reproductive health services provided at Whitman Hospital & Medical Clinics.

### Applicability

Family Birth Center Personnel

### Policy

Medically appropriate care will be provided to all patients who present to Whitman Hospital & Medical Clinics.

Medical referrals for reproductive health issues are treated the same as any other medical referral. In an emergency situation, the provider will make direct contact with the referral group or provider, and if needed arrangements will be made to ensure safe transport of the patient to that accepting provider.

Maternity care benefits, services or information, as well as substantially equivalent benefits, services or information will be provided to all women.

The public hospital district complies with the Reproductive Privacy Act, a state law that requires a public hospital district that elects to provide maternity care benefits, services or information through a program administered or funded by the public hospital district, to also provide substantially equivalent pregnancy termination benefits, services or information. The Act defines pregnancy as the reproductive process beginning with the implantation of an embryo. The Act contains a conscience clause acknowledging that no person may be required in any circumstance to participate in the performance of an abortion if such person objects to doing so. The public hospital district respects each individual's right to refuse to

participate in an abortion that violates his or her beliefs. The public hospital district provides the maternity care benefits, services or information (Maternity Services) identified in the table below. The District also provides, or makes its facilities available to provide, the substantially equivalent pregnancy termination benefits, services or information (Pregnancy Termination Services) indicated in the table. If the Pregnancy Termination Service requires the professional services of a clinical team, such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other clinicians (Clinicians), the public hospital district's facilities will be made available for the Pregnancy Termination Service contingent upon the properly credentialed Clinicians' willingness and availability to provide the needed professional services. If a patient seeks a Pregnancy Termination Service for which Clinicians are required, the appropriate district personnel will determine, in coordination with the medical staff office (or other applicable hospital department), if such Clinicians are available and if so, coordinate scheduling of the Termination Service.

**DOCUMENTATION:**

All patients will be provided a copy of their Patient's Rights and Responsibilities upon admission to Whitman Hospital and Medical Clinics. Patients will sign that they have received this information. Documentation of referrals will be included in the patient's Electronic Medical Record.

Copies of this policy will be kept updated on the Whitman Hospital website as well as being submitted to Washington State Department of Health Website. Email updated policy to: [HospitalPolicies@doh.wa.gov](mailto:HospitalPolicies@doh.wa.gov)

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## Attachments

[reproductive health table.doc](#)

## Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
	Charlene Morgan: Chief Nursing Officer	6/19/2022, 1:44PM EDT
	Joan Hendrickson: Director of Inpatient Services	6/14/2022, 10:18AM EDT