

## NORTHPOINTE BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

**POLICY TITLE:** Sterilization, Abortion, Contraception and Family Planning

**PAGE:** 1 of 2

**MANUAL:** Recipient Rights

**SECTION:** Rights

**ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE:** 5/1/99

**BOARD APPROVAL DATE:** 11/25/13

**REVIEWED/REVISED ON DATE:** 3/15/18

**CURRENT EFFECTIVE DATE:** 4/1/18

**REVISIONS TO POLICY STATEMENT:**  YES  NO **OTHER REVISIONS:**  YES  NO

### **APPLIES TO:**

All programs operated by or under contract with Northpointe Behavioral Healthcare Systems.

### **POLICY:**

It is the policy of Northpointe Behavioral Healthcare Systems that:

1. Upon request from the service recipient, staff members will provide education, information on family planning, and/or referral; however, mental health services are not contingent upon receiving family planning services. Recipients are made aware of this via the Health Assessment form completed upon entry to services and annually thereafter.
2. NBHS employees are only permitted to provide education and information regarding sterilization, abortion and contraception.

### **PURPOSE:**

To establish policies and procedures concerning situations which involve sterilization, abortion and contraception rights of service recipients.

### **REQUIRED BY:**

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Administrative Rule 330.7029

### **DEFINITIONS:**

**Abortion:** The termination of pregnancy before the stage of viability, induced or performed purposely, as by a surgeon.

**Contraception:** The prevention of conception by chemical or mechanical means, not to include surgical sterilization.

**Emergency:** Demands immediate action as determined by a physician.

**Non-Therapeutic:** An elective procedure not having medicinal or healing properties.

**Service Recipient:** A person who receives mental health services from Northpointe Behavioral Healthcare Systems.

**Sterilization:** Surgical removal of testes or ovaries, or inactivation by irradiation, or by tying of or removal of a portion of the reproductive ducts.

**Therapeutic:** Having medicinal or healing properties. A governing body shall not consider mental illness, mental retardation, or other intellectual/developmental disability as an illness or injury for which a therapeutic procedure is deemed necessary.

### **PROCEDURES:**

1. Responsible Care Managers/Clinicians may provide, upon request, the service recipient or his/her guardian orally or in writing information pertaining to:
  - a. Family planning service agencies;

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- b. Agencies offering non-therapeutic abortions;
  - c. Agencies offering sterilization procedures; and
  - d. Obtaining contraception.
2. The above information shall be documented in the progress note section of the clinical record. The service recipient shall be informed that receiving mental health services does not mean in any way that a service recipient must request or not request family planning services or health information services. This shall be documented in the progress note section of the clinical record.
3. If other staff members receive requests for such information, they should refer the service recipient to the Responsible Care Manager/Clinician.