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Owner Tesha Davidson:
Manager, Medical
Staff Programs
Policy Area Medical Staff
Policies

Reproductive Health Care

POLICY:

As a municipal corporation of the State of Washington, it is the policy of Jefferson Healthcare to abide by Chapter 9.02 and RCW 18.71.240 as applicable within the lawful limitations of the resources and services offered at the organization

PURPOSE:

To outline the process to meet the reproductive health care requirements of Washington State Department of Health.

SCOPE:

This policy applies to all areas where reproductive health care is offered and provided at Jefferson Healthcare

DEFINITIONS:

RCW 9.02.100, Reproductive privacy—Public Policy: the sovereign people hereby declare that every individual possesses a fundamental right of privacy with respect to personal reproductive decisions.

Accordingly, it is the public policy of the state of Washington that:

1. Every individual has the fundamental right to choose or refuse birth control;
2. Every person has the fundamental right to choose or refuse to have an abortion, except as specifically limited by RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902;
3. Except as specifically permitted by RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902, the state shall not deny or interfere with a person's fundamental right to choose or refuse to have an abortion; and

4. The state shall not discriminate against the exercise of these rights in the regulation or provision of benefits, facilities, services or information.

RCW 9.02.150, Refusing to perform:

No person or private medical facility may be required by law or contract in any circumstances to participate in the performance of an abortion if such person or private medical facility objects to so doing. No person may be discriminated against in employment or professional privileges because of the person's participation or refusal to participate in the termination of a pregnancy.

RCW 9.02.160, State-provided benefits:

If the state provides, directly or by contract, maternity care benefits, services, or information to patients through any program administered or funded in whole or in part by the state, the state shall also provide women otherwise eligible for any such program with substantially equivalent benefits, services, or information to permit them to voluntarily terminate their pregnancies.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Healthcare providers at Jefferson Healthcare are responsible to be aware of the laws regarding reproductive healthcare.

Leadership at Jefferson Healthcare is responsible to be aware of laws regarding reproductive healthcare and to facilitate meeting requirements that are within the scope and resources of the organization.

PROCEDURE:

Reproductive healthcare services offered at Jefferson Healthcare include women's health exams, low risk prenatal care and childbirth care including childbirth and lactation education, birth control including insertion of IUD's and implants, low risk abortions and abortion care, referrals for high risk pregnancies including high risk abortion needs, referrals for fertility management, diagnosis and treatment or referral for reproductive cancer.

No person will be discriminated against and no health care within the scope of Jefferson Healthcare services will be refused based upon the choice to terminate a pregnancy.

Updates to this policy shall be sent to the Director of Marketing and Communications to provide to the Department of Health and update the Jefferson Healthcare website.

RECORDS REQUIRED:

Documentation of all aspects of care will be recorded in the EMR including counseling, procedure notes and any referrals generated regarding reproductive healthcare including voluntary termination of pregnancy.

REFERENCES:

Chapter 9.02 RCW and RCW 18.71.240

Board Approval:

Board approve: 6/7/2017; 7/25/2018; 7/24/2019; 11/17/2021, 08/23/2023, 7/2024

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
Medical Executive Committee	Tesha Davidson: Manager, Medical Staff Programs	07/2024
	Tesha Davidson: Manager, Medical Staff Programs	07/2024

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