

RH Program Response to SCOTUS Decision on Roe v Wade

Since our last Newsletter, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its decision in the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. That day we issued a response to the decision and we wanted to share it again:

We in the Reproductive Health Program are reaching out today to acknowledge the impact of this morning's news of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. This decision opens the door for the legal right to abortion to be further stripped from a large share of the people in this country. We are all grappling with this news as best we can, and we know it will impact each of us in a multitude of personal and professional ways. We are here with you as your partner in this work as you grapple with these feelings and consequences, today and in the important days to come. Our program is committed to reproductive equity and bodily autonomy for all people in Oregon, and firmly believes that no person should experience forced pregnancy for any reason.

We want to transparently share what we at the State are doing in light of this news. Though the decision is official just today, we and many others have been preparing for the possibility of this national legal change for some time.

First, it is crucial to remember that the **full spectrum of essential reproductive health services, including abortion, is still fully legal in Oregon.**

The right to abortion is protected under Oregon law. Oregon guarantees the right to abortion without any restrictions or state interference. In 2017, the Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA) protected and expanded access to reproductive health services, including abortion, for all people in Oregon. RHEA codified into Oregon law an individual's right to receive an abortion, as well as a health care provider's right to provide an abortion.

Earlier this year the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 5202, which included a \$15 million allocation of state general funds to advance reproductive health equity. These funds, distributed by OHA, will be used by Seeding Justice to establish the Reproductive Health Equity Fund. A stated key purpose of the Reproductive Health Equity Fund is to provide meaningful and immediate support to patients, health care providers, and community advocates in the face of other states' legislative actions to restrict or prohibit, in its entirety, access to legal and safe abortions.

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Earlier today, care, and no matter who you are or where you come from, Oregon doesn't turn away anyone seeking health care. Period. Let me be clear: You cannot ban abortion, you can only ban safe abortions — and this disgraceful Supreme Court decision will undoubtedly put many people's lives at risk, in addition to stripping away a constitutional right that disproportionately affects women and has been settled law for most of our lifetimes". You can find OHA's press release about the Supreme Court's decision here: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDHS/bulletins/31d97e7>.

While the legal and policy work continues, so does our program's work of supporting you in the life-saving work you do: providing essential reproductive health services that truly meet each client's needs, reaching out to community to educate and increase access to services, and advancing reproductive justice for all people in Oregon.

Over the next several months we are taking steps to fortify the support we provide you. These include:

- Re-assessing our reimbursement rates for abortion services to ensure rates cover costs;
- Contributing to a series of the "Ask a Black Doctor" podcast highlighting reproductive justice;
- Working closely within the Oregon Health Authority to provide accurate and equity-centered data to inform policy decisions related to reproductive equity aimed at narrowing gaps in geographic access and coverage that already exist in Oregon;
- Joining the newly formed Reproductive Health and Access to Care (RHAC) Workgroup convened by state Rep. Dan Rayfield;
- Revising our most widely accessed materials, such as our Pregnancy Options brochure, to provide updated information about access to services, including abortion. Additionally, we are looking to update the materials we provide to every person leaving incarceration at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility to increase the information about supported family building, including access to reproductive health services and abortion;

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- Collaborating with our partners, including Seeding Justice, to support the powerful efforts of community to advance reproductive justice in Oregon.

We are accountable to you and to all people in Oregon to do this work, and to do more, hand in hand with you and others. Today, more than ever, we are grateful and proud to be charged with this work, and even more grateful and proud of each of you.

If you or your partners would like to get in touch with the RH Program, please email: rh.program@dhsosha.state.or.us. For media requests, please contact: Jonathan Modie, 971-246-9137, PHD.Communications@odhsosha.oregon.gov. For information about accessing reproductive health, including abortion, services, please visit healthoregon.org/rhclinics, dial 211, or text HEALTH to 898211.

In partnership,

Annika Shore, RH Program Manager and the RH Program Team

Updated Supply Reimbursement Chart

We have updated the Supply Reimbursement Chart that lists the maximum quantities and maximum unit prices covered by the RH Access Fund. Based on your feedback about fluctuating prices, we've increased the maximum unit prices for all of the supplies we cover. We also increased the maximum quantity for the patch and the ring. The changes are effective April 1, 2022. Please reach out to any of us if you have questions about supply pricing or if your acquisition prices don't fall within our price limits.

[See the updated Supply Reimbursement Chart](#) ↗

*And don't forget to bill us for supplies! Over the last few months of desk audits, we've noticed many agencies are not billing us for all of the contraceptive methods dispensed. If you have questions or concerns about how to bill for supplies, please contact us.

Reminder about Language Assistance Reimbursement

We want to remind you that we will reimburse for Language Assistance services whether they are provided by certified, qualified, or non-certified interpreters, including bilingual staff who are not certified with the OHA Health Care Interpreter Program.

For some FAQs about this, see our [RH Access Fund Reimbursement Rates](#)[↗] (FAQs start on page 3)

Title X Network Needs Assessment – Chance to Win \$100

RHCare clinics are eligible to take the 2022 Title X Network Needs Assessment Survey and enter for a chance to win \$100! The purpose of this survey is to assess the clinical training needs of the Title X network and is open to clinical providers and/or staff with knowledge of clinical services at their Title X place of work. This survey will inform the NCTCFP's future training and technical assistance.

[Learn more and take the survey](#)[↗]

Survey Opportunity for Providers re: Self-Administered Depo

The NCTCFP, Jennifer Karlin, MD, PhD and colleagues at the University of California, Davis are conducting a qualitative study that aims to learn more about how people who work in clinical care think about the injectable contraception depo medroxyprogesterone acetate (DMPA). To participate, you must be either a pharmacist or health care provider who prescribes or administers contraception. Eligible participants can take a 15-minute survey and be entered for a chance to win one of five \$250 Visa gift cards.

[Take the survey](#)[↗]

Health Equity

eLearning: Leadership for a Diverse and Inclusive Family Planning Organization

This eLearning course from the RHNTC provides practical, evidence-informed strategies for implementing culturally competent family planning services. For organizations that assist the public with their family planning needs, fostering a diverse, equitable, and inclusive (DEI) environment is essential to serving communities with compassion and excellence. Organizations that value an environment and culture centered around DEI have better-performing individuals and teams and better client and organizational outcomes.

[Register for the eLearning course](#) ↗

Trainings

Webinar: Building Mental Health Support into Family Planning Services (July 27, 12:00-1:00)

What supports your mental health, enabling you to engage in your work productively? And how does your agency screen for, identify, and respond to clients' mental health challenges during family planning visits?

Join the RHNTC for a webinar with experts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who will highlight the value of mental health self-care among family planning service staff. Presenters will also describe the importance of supporting clients' mental health as part of supporting preconception and overall health. Participants will learn about screening processes for anxiety and depression, assisting clients who exhibit symptoms of mental health issues, and other strategies and resources to strengthen their ability to engage, support, and appropriately refer clients who might be experiencing anxiety or depression.

This webinar is intended for all family planning staff who interact with clients .

[Register here](#) ↗

Resources

Clinical Resource: Misoprostol Administration for IUD Placement

Over the past 15 years, several studies, including three meta-analyses, have assessed misoprostol's effectiveness as a cervical ripening agent in a variety of circumstances beyond use in medication abortion. These circumstances include administration before routine IUD placement and in select patients following a failed first attempt at IUD placement. In response to requests from the field, NFPRHA developed a clinical white paper (PDF) outlining research findings.

[Read the clinical white paper](#) ↗

The Rational Enquirer

The 2022 Edition of The Rational Enquirer publication is out! This publication provides informational content and resources, and reflects the experiences and perspectives of young people. It can be used to start meaningful conversations between adults and young people around topics of sexual health, identity, love and life. The intended audience for this publication is high school aged and older youth.

[View the publication](#) ↗

[Pre-Order copies](#) ↗

Copies are free to order and are expected to ship late summer.