IS THIS THE RIGHT CLINIC FOR ME OR MY FRIEND?



Advancing Reproductive Health

Asking these questions can help you determine if this is a quality referral in California...



DOES THIS CLINIC OFFER A FULL RANGE OF FDA APPROVED CONTRACEPTION OPTIONS?

You want a place that provides not just contraception, but contraception options—so that you can work together with the doctor to figure out what is right for you. If the clinic doesn't provide contraception at all, or only provides one or two options, you may not get something that is just right for you.



DO THEY PROVIDE CARE TO FOLKS WHO IDENTIFY AS LGBTQ+?

There are some clinics that refuse to provide care to people who identify as LGBTQ. No matter how you identify, a clinic that refuses care to certain populations just because of who they are is probably not a supportive place to get care.



ARE THE HEALTH PROVIDERS AT THIS CLINIC LICENSED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, LIKE DOCTORS OR NURSES?

Just because someone wears a white coat doesn't mean they are a licensed medical professional. If the person you will see does not have a medical degree, this may not be a real clinic.



IS THIS CLINIC PART OF THE MEDI-CAL OR FAMILYPACT SYSTEM?

Going to a clinic that is part of Medi-Cal or FamilyPACT ensures the clinic must adhere to certain laws regarding confidentiality and makes it more likely you will be able to get free or low-cost care if you need it.



DO THEY HONOR LAWS REGARDING CONFIDENTIALITY?

Clinics without medical licenses are not required to follow medical privacy laws. Ask and/or look for notices and information in their handouts about privacy laws like HIPAA.



HOW DO THEY DISCUSS PREGNANCY OPTIONS OR OPTIONS TO PREVENT PREGNANCY?

Look out for inaccurate medical facts regarding abortion or birth control. For example this is not the right clinic if they tell you abortion is more dangerous than pregnancy or causes cancer. (Neither statement is true!)



DO THEY PROVIDE MEDICAL AND/OR SURGICAL ABORTIONS, OR ABORTION REFERRALS?

You may never choose abortion for yourself, but you want a clinic that you can trust will provide young people with full information about options and honor their right to make decisions for themselves. Even if you are not pregnant, or planning to be pregnant, this may not be the right clinic if it refuses to provide abortion referrals for patients who really want (or need) that care.



IS THE CLINIC RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED?

Many religiously affiliated clinics provide excellent and compassionate care. Being religiously affiliated is not a bad thing! However, some religiously affiliated clinics refuse to provide care to the LGBTQ community, or refuse to provide information about all sexual and reproductive health options, like contraception and abortion. So if a clinic is associated with a religious organization, you should conduct some extra research, like asking some of the questions listed above, before going there.

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HELPFUL WEBSITES

FOR RELIABLE INFORMATION ON ABORTION AND HEALTH RIGHTS IN CALIFORNIA

www.abortion.ca.gov





FOR HELP FINDING A RELIABLE CLINIC THAT PROVIDES ABORTION

www.abortionfinder.org

www.bedsider.org



FOR HELP FINDING A RELIABLE CLINIC THAT PROVIDES A FULL RANGE OF CONTRACEPTION AND STI CARE

www.teensource.org/find-a-clinic



WARNING: BE CAREFUL OF CRISIS PREGNANCY

Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs) are clinics whose main goal is to keep pregnant people from having an abortion. Many also have a goal of stopping people from using contraception. If you want to know which clinics are CPCs in your area, use this map. It shows which clinics are CPCs across the country.

https://crisispregnancycentermap.com/

This resource was developed by the Youth Advisory Board at the California Reproductive Health Equity Project (RHEP). For more information about RHEP, visit www.fosterreprohealth.org.