

MINOR CONSENT FOR FAMILIES AND YOUTH UNDER 18

BACKGROUND

As of June 5, 2023, [Senate Bill \(SB\) 172](#) of the 82nd Legislative Session increased access for minors to receive sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention and treatment services without parental or legal guardian consent.

Previously, SB 172, Nevada Revised Statutes, [\(NRS\) 129.060](#), allowed minors to receive exams or treatments if suspected of being infected or infected with any sexually transmitted disease (STD) without the consent of the parent(s) or legal guardian. These services could be done by a local state health officer, licensed physician, or clinic. Additionally, [NRS 430A.180](#) did not allow providers at Family Resource Centers to give minors certain medical services, including STI treatment, without written consent from the minor's parent, guardian, or legal custodian.

Now, Family Resource Centers can provide certain prevention services for STDs and pregnancy, additional medical provider types can provide services, and preventive STI and pregnancy services can be given to minors without parental, guardian, or legal custodian consent.

The following changes are stated below:

- Clarifies that a **minor must consent to examination or treatment before** services are given;
- Added two (2) medical provider types that can give exams and treatments: **physician assistant or registered nurse** and;
- **Added preventive services for STI's and allows prescriptions, distribution, or administration of a contraceptive drug or device** with minor consent
 - Preventive services for STI's include, but are not limited to, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and the [Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\) vaccine](#).
 - Service can be provided by a local or state health officer, licensed physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or registered nurse, pharmacist, or clinic.
- **Addition of physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) or registered nurse or pharmacist who is an employee or volunteer at a Family Resource Center** to provide prevention services, treatment of STDs, and prescribe, distribute, or administer a contraceptive drug or device to a minor without parent, guardian, or legal custodian consent.
 - It is important to note that APRNs are a different provider type, and they have prescriptive authority. An order from a prescriber is required for an RN to treat or administer medications as RNs cannot prescribe.

Information about contraception, STI treatment, and prevention access can be found here: [Account for Family Planning](#), [Community Health Nursing Services](#), [local health authority and county resources](#), and [STI Program](#).

Services relating to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

The addition of preventive services also includes taking [Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis](#) (PrEP). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends PrEP as an HIV prevention strategy. Taking PrEP medication as prescribed reduces the risk of getting HIV through sexual contact by about 99% and reduces the risk of getting HIV by at least 74% among persons who inject drugs (PWID). Two (2) medications, Truvada® (emtricitabine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) and Descovy® (emtricitabine and tenofovir alafenamide) are approved for daily use as an HIV PrEP regimen.

When taken daily, PrEP is safe and highly successful in preventing HIV infection. PrEP reaches maximum protection from HIV for receptive anal sex at about seven (7) days of daily use. For receptive vaginal sex and injection drug use, PrEP reaches maximum protection at about twenty (20) days of daily use. Data is not yet available about how long it takes to reach maximum protection for insertive anal or insertive vaginal sex. PrEP providers can be found online [here](#).

Questions

For updated guidance, review [the Division of Public and Behavioral Health Technical Bulletin](#) web page regularly. Contact DPBH Bureau Main Line at 775-684-4285 for other questions regarding **this bulletin**.