



## 2.7.4 BASIC INFERTILITY SERVICES

### POLICY:

Basic infertility services include services for both partners of an infertile couple. Basic infertility services include understanding the client's reproductive life plan and the client's and partner's difficulty in achieving pregnancy through a medical history, sexual health assessment and physical exam, in accordance with recommendations developed by professional medical associations. Basic infertility services also include infertility counseling. (QFP, pp.15-16 [Providing Quality Family Planning Services \(hhs.gov\)](https://www.hhs.gov))

### PROCEDURE:

Providers should offer basic infertility care as part of core family planning services in accordance with the recommendations of professional medical organizations, such as ACOG, ASRM, and the American Urological Association (AUA) (96,101,102).

Infertility commonly is defined as the failure of a couple to achieve pregnancy after 12 months or longer of regular unprotected intercourse.

Earlier assessment (such as 6 months of regular unprotected intercourse) is justified for

- women aged >35 years, those with a history of oligomenorrhea (infrequent menstruation),
- those with known or suspected uterine or tubal disease or endometriosis,
- those with a partner known to be sub fertile (the condition of being less than normally fertile though still capable of effecting fertilization).

An early evaluation also might be warranted if risk factors of male infertility are known to be present or if there are questions regarding the male partner's fertility potential.

Infertility visits to a family planning provider are focused on determining potential causes of the inability to achieve pregnancy and making any needed referrals to specialist care. ASRM recommends that evaluation of both partners should begin at the same time.

### RESOURCES:

ND FPP Protocol RD-15 Basic Infertility

ND FPP Protocol CON-16 FABM

RHNTC Family Planning and Related Preventive Services Checklist  
[Checklists for Family planning and related preventive health services \(rhntc.org\)](https://rhntc.org)

RHNTC Basic Infertility Services [Search | Reproductive Health National Training Center \(rhntc.org\)](https://rhntc.org)

[Treating Infertility | ACOG](https://www.acog.org)

[Basic Infertility Protocol Job Aid | Reproductive Health National Training Center \(rhntc.org\)](https://rhntc.org)



[RHNTC: Basic Infertility Services Site Self-Assessment](#)

[Protocol Template: Basic Infertility Services - The Clinical Training Center for Sexual & Reproductive Health \(ctcsr.org\)](#)