

**SHIAWASSEE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**  
**POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL**

Section: Recipient Rights  
Policy Number: 12  
Subject: **Sterilization, Abortion, and  
Contraception**

Effective Date: 12/5/95  
Last Revision Date: 5/9/16  
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### **Policy**

It is the policy of Shiawassee County Community Mental Health Authority (SCCMHA) that access to and provision of mental health services is independent of and separate from the personal domain of choices affecting procreation. It also is the policy that strict adherence to federal and state laws concerning sterilization, abortion, and contraception will be followed when any such law or laws have applicability in regard to the manner in which mental health services must be delivered.

### **Purpose**

To ensure the protection of rights of recipients of SCCMHA.

To ensure compliance with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Administrative Rules.

### **Application**

This policy applies to all employees, independent contractors, and contract agencies of the SCCMHA.

### **Definitions**

Abortion: Termination of pregnancy before the stage of viability, induced or performed purposely, as by a surgeon.

Contraception: The prevention of conception by chemical or mechanical means, not including surgical sterilization.

Sterilization: Surgical removal of testes or ovaries, or inactivation by radiation, or by tying off or removing a portion or portions of the reproductive ducts.

**Standards**

1. Recipients will receive written notice that access to or participation in a Board-sponsored program, service or activity is not contingent upon the consumer receiving family planning services.
2. SCCMHA staff, independent contractors, and other providers of Board-sponsored programs, services, and activities may address through counseling and/or providing written materials a recipient's or, as applicable, his/her guardian's expressed concerns regarding sterilization, abortion and/or contraception but they will not advise for or against these procedures. It is recognized; however, in recipients receiving medications physicians may warn the recipients to avoid pregnancy due to potentially harmful effects of medication to the fetus.
3. A recipient or recipient's guardian or parent of a minor recipient will be notified by the individual in charge of the recipient's plan of service of the right to request family health information. If so requested by a recipient or the recipient's guardian a SCCMHA staff person, independent contractor or other provider of a Board-sponsored program, service or activity may provide a recipient or a recipient's guardian with the names of agencies or resources in the community which may assist the recipient with services related to family planning.

Approved by:   
Board Chairperson

9-26-2016  
Date

  
Chief Executive Officer

9/28/16  
Date

Review/Revision Dates:

Date:	By:
1/13/97, 10/31/01	Revised
1996-2008	Reviewed by Board
4/2/09	New formatting
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5/9/2016	Revised by Rebecca Browne