



Legislation Text

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A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the department of health and mental hygiene to make available FDA-approved methods of non-surgical contraception and long-acting reversible contraception at its health centers, health stations, health clinics and other health facilities

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Section 17-184 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law 19 for the year 2003, is renamed and amended to read as follows:

§ 17-184 Availability of [emergency] contraception. a. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Emergency contraception. The term "emergency contraception" means one or more drugs, used separately or in combination, to be administered to or self-administered by a patient in a dosage and manner intended to prevent pregnancy when used within a medically recommended amount of time following sexual intercourse and dispensed for that purpose in accordance with professional standards of practice, and which has been found safe and effective for such use by the United States food and drug administration.

Long-acting reversible contraception. The term "long-acting reversible contraception" means one or more reversible contraceptive methods, used separately or in combination, including, but not limited to, intrauterine devices, injections or injectable, or subdermal contraceptive implants, to be administered to or self-administered by a patient in a dosage and manner intended to prevent pregnancy for an extended period of time without user action when dispensed in accordance with medically professional standards of practice, and which has been found safe and effective for such use by the United States food and drug administration.

b. Availability of contraception. The department shall make available FDA-approved non-surgical contraception and emergency and long-acting reversible contraception at each health center, health station, health clinic or other health facility operated or maintained by the department which also offers services relating to the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases. The department shall provide information on free or low-cost access to the administration and insertion of LARC methods as well as LARC removal services. Timely referrals will be provided to qualified family planning providers if needed for other services. [For purposes of this section, the term "emergency contraception" shall mean one or more prescription drugs, used separately or in combination, to be administered to or self-administered by a patient in a dosage and manner intended to prevent pregnancy when used within a medically recommended amount of time following sexual intercourse and dispensed for that purpose in accordance with professional standards of practice, and which has been found safe and effective for such use by the United States food and drug administration.]

c. Cultural competency training. The department shall annually offer training to all employees of health centers, health stations, health clinics and other health facilities maintained by the department which also offer services relating to the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases. The training should include, but not be limited to:

1. The history of the provision of long-acting contraceptive, including the history of sterilization abuse;
2. Comprehensive, scientifically accurate information about the full range of contraceptive options in a medically ethical and culturally competent manner; and
3. Implicit and explicit biases which can result in the harm of a patient, particularly those which can impede the fair and equal treatment of all patients.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 180 days after it becomes law, except that the commissioner may take such measures as are necessary for the implementation of this local law, including the promulgation of rules, before such date.

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