

CONTRACEPTION BILL OF RIGHTS

1. **The right to consistent, respectful, patient-centered treatment regardless of race, gender, sex, ethnicity, income, documentation status, religion, (dis)ability, or sexual orientation.** There is a history of the medical profession coercing certain groups into using specific methods of contraception. Our staff is aware of this history and has completed anti-bias training.
2. **The right to private access to contraception and other sexual and reproductive health services.** Confidentiality for sexual and reproductive health service also applies to minors (those under 18) in Massachusetts. However, a guardian and/or the Department of Children and Families would need to be made aware if a minor patient discloses that they are a victim of abuse or their life or someone else's life is at risk.
3. **The right to involve your family or other support people in your care if you choose.** Our staff will offer education about contraception to your partner, parents, or other support people if you would like.
4. **The right to switch methods if your current one is not working for you.** You may return to the clinic to ask about different methods whenever you like.
5. **The right to removal of any method that requires a medical visit for device removal.** Implants and intrauterine devices (IUDs) must be both put in and removed by a clinician. Like all contraception methods, they can have side effects such as increased bleeding between periods. Some people do not experience side effects. Many people find that side effects decrease or go away entirely after several months. If you want your method removed due to typical side effects, there may be other options to try to help lessen your symptoms first. You may also choose to remove the method right away.
6. **The right to financial assistance in paying for contraception.** Under federal and Massachusetts law, most methods of contraception must be covered in full by most insurance plans, including MassHealth. Not everyone is covered for every method. **[Information on how to access financial assistance at your institution]**

You can also call the Health Care for All Helpline: Call (800) 272-4232 for answers to your insurance questions or visit <https://www.mass.gov/topics/health-care> to learn about your healthcare options.