

Human rights and related principles that apply to FP

Human Rights Conventions

See Erdman and Cook, 2008, Reproductive Rights, and UNCESCR, 2016. General Comment 22 on the Right to SRH



Right to reproductive self determination

Right to bodily integrity and security of person and rights of couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of children.

Agency and Autonomy
Empowerment
Informed Decision-making



Right to SRH services, information, & education

Including the right to the highest attainable standards of health.

Availability
Accessibility
Acceptability
Quality
Privacy and Confidentiality
Informed Choice



Right to equality and non-discrimination

Right to make decisions concerning reproduction free of discrimination, coercion, and violence.

Non-discrimination
Equity

Accountability and Participation

Other Sources:

WHO, 2014, Rights-based Contraceptive Services; FP2020 Rights and Empowerment Principles

	Rights Element	Program Implications
1	Accessibility	Information is available in the language and terms people can understand; geographic access, financial access, policy access (i.e., absence of nonmedical eligibility criteria); continuous contraceptive security; suitable hours offered for clients; service integration to increase access
2	Availability	Broad choice of methods offered; sufficient and needs-based distribution of functioning service delivery points
3	Acceptability	Culturally appropriate facilities, methods, and services; community/family support for women's right to choose; tolerance of side effects; privacy and confidentiality respected; client satisfaction with services
4	Quality	Service providers are well trained and provide safe services; they treat clients with respect, provide good counseling and protect their privacy and confidentiality; and they have a regular supply of contraceptives and the equipment they need to provide the services clients want
5	Agency/ empowerment/ autonomy	Knowledge of one's rights and of FP; ability to make your own decisions independent of system, husband or family pressures; informed, voluntary decision making supported; meaningful participation of clients in program design and monitoring; client-controlled methods offered; supportive gender norms exist in the community; women/men/young people know and demand their human rights
6	Non-discrimination/ Equity	Everyone, no matter what community group they come from, their age or what their circumstances, has the same access to high quality information and services; everyone is treated fairly and the same
7	Accountability	Mechanisms exist for community members and family planning clients to provide input and feedback about services, and to investigate and remedy allegations of/confirmed human rights violations
8	Informed choice	Women and youth make their own decisions about whether to use FP and what method to use, with free access to accurate information they can understand and a range of options to choose from, without pressure from anyone
9	Privacy and confidentiality	Ensuring client interactions cannot be observed or heard by anyone else without the client's consent; ensuring client records are not shared with anyone and that information is not disclosed
10	Participation	Members of the community are involved in planning and monitoring FP services.
Source: Modified from WHO, 2014, Rights-based Contraceptive Services; and FP2020, 2014, Rights and Empowerment Principles.		