Pregnancy testing is an essential component of comprehensive family planning services and reproductive care. Early intervention with emergency contraception can prevent an unintended pregnancy, following a contraceptive failure (or no contraception). Early detection of pregnancy makes early pregnancy-related care possible.

Intervention, appropriate for the patient’s pregnancy status and plans, should be initiated at the pregnancy test visit. Pregnancy testing, in conjunction with services that support appropriate continuity of care, is a standard of reproductive health care.

**Basic Practices: Early Intervention and Detection of Pregnancy**

- Make early intervention and detection of pregnancy services accessible on a priority basis for women at risk of an unintended pregnancy.
- Interview patients to identify the timing and circumstances of a suspected pregnancy, and to identify a patient’s pregnancy intentions and plans.
- Provide evidence-based information about EC as an alternative (when appropriate) to waiting until a pregnancy test can be performed. (See *Just the Basics: Emergency Contraception*.)
- Have emergency contraception available as an early intervention for women (wanting to prevent pregnancy) who have had unprotected sexual activity within the past 120 hours.
- Provide accurate, evidence-based, and non-directive information to inform pregnancy test patients of their alternatives, appropriate for their pregnancy status and intentions, and to enable patients to make informed decisions.
- Initiate services at the same visit appropriate for a patient’s pregnancy status and intentions to ensure continuity of care. (See next section.)
- Initiate (or continue) contraceptive services and related reproductive health care at the same visit as appropriate for test results and patient intentions. (See *Just the Basics: Contraceptive and Related Reproductive Health Practices*).
- Safeguard patient privacy for all pregnancy-related services and intervention.

A patient request for a pregnancy test is a significant reproductive event. Timeliness of care is essential. Pregnancy testing is a service – not only a laboratory test – and practices should support reproductive health care goals: to prevent unintended pregnancy and to promote healthy pregnancy. Other services should be provided in conjunction with pregnancy tests, at the same visit, for continuity of care appropriate to a patient’s pregnancy status and intentions.
Basic Practices: Services Appropriate for Pregnancy Status & Intention

Services must be available and initiated at the same pregnancy test visit, appropriate for a patient’s pregnancy status and intentions, to ensure continuity of care.

☐ **Pregnant- Full Term Anticipated:**
   The goal of intervention is early entry into prenatal care and pregnancy-related services to promote healthy pregnancy and birth. Intervention should include:
   - **Patient education** relevant to healthy pregnancy and birth;
   - **Screening and assessment** to identify pregnancy-related risks;
   - **Referral(s)** for prenatal care and other pregnancy services;
   - **Eligibility screening and enrollment** for Forward Health (Badger Care) pregnancy care; and
   - **Follow-up/care coordination** to facilitate continuity of care and access to services.

☐ **Pregnant-Full Term Not Anticipated:**
   The goal of intervention is timely access to contraceptive services to prevent a subsequent unintended pregnancy. Intervention should include:
   - **Patient education** relevant to a patient’s personal reproductive intentions, successful contraception, and reproductive health;
   - **Screening and assessment** to identify sexual/reproductive health risks;
   - **Contraceptive services and supplies** for timely post partum contraception;
   - **Eligibility screening and enrollment** for contraceptive and related reproductive health care in Forward Health (Badger Care) programs; and
   - **Follow-up/care coordination** to support successful post partum contraception.

☐ **Not Pregnant-Pregnancy Intended:**
   The goal of intervention is timely access to preconceptional health care. Intervention should include:
   - **Patient education** to support informed decisions and health practices for future healthy pregnancy and birth; and
   - **Referral** (or appointment) for preconceptional screening and assessment, and education services.

☐ **Not Pregnant- Pregnancy Not Desired:**
   The goal of intervention is to initiate contraceptive services and related reproductive health care at the same visit. Intervention should include practices outlined in “Just the Basics: Contraceptive and Related Reproductive Health Practices” including:
   - **Patient education** relevant to a patient’s reproductive intentions, successful contraception, and reproductive health;
   - **Dual protection** (condoms);
   - **Emergency contraception** supplies (to have in advance of actual emergency);
   - **Primary contraceptive method**;
   - **Screening and assessment** to identify other sexual/reproductive health needs;
   - **Eligibility screening and enrollment** into the Family Planning Waiver;
   - **On-going** contraceptive supplies and routine reproductive health care; and
   - **Referrals and appointments**.