



Medical Accuracy: National and Oklahoma Definition

The Interagency Coordinating Council for Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (ICC), State of Oklahoma, adopted the following definition of *medical accuracy in sexuality education and HIV prevention programs* at its meeting on February 5, 2009:

Medical accuracy of information used in sexuality education, teen pregnancy prevention, and HIV/STD prevention programs shall be defined as information relevant to informed decision-making based on the weight of scientific evidence, consistent with generally recognized scientific theory, conducted under accepted scientific methods, published in peer-reviewed journals, and recognized as accurate, objective, and complete by mainstream professional organizations such as the American Medical Association, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, American Public Health Association, and American Academy of Pediatrics; government agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Food and Drug Administration, National Institutes of Health; and scientific advisory groups such as the Institute of Medicine and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. The deliberate withholding of information that is needed to protect life and health (and therefore relevant to informed decision-making) should be considered medically inaccurate.

Citation for definition:

JS Santelli “Medical Accuracy in Sexuality Education: Ideology and the Scientific Process” *Am J Public Health* 98(10) 1786-1792 2008

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Interagency Coordinating Council member groups, representing organizations and constituencies identified for participation in the ICC in the authorizing legislation included the following:

Individuals – teens and parents of teens

Latino Community Development Agency

Leadership Oklahoma

Margaret Hudson Program, Tulsa Public Schools

Millwood Public Schools – Superintendent

Office of Juvenile Affairs

Oklahoma Commission on Children & Youth

Oklahoma Education Association

Oklahoma School Counselors Association

Oklahoma Department of Career Technology Education

Oklahoma Department of Human Services

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy

Oklahoma Ministerial Alliance

Oklahoma PTA

Oklahoma State Department of Education

Oklahoma State Department of Health – Abstinence Education, Child and Adolescent Health Division, County Health Department network, HIV/STD Section, Maternal and Child Health Section

Oklahoma State Medical Association

Teen emPower, Inc. (nonprofit teen pregnancy prevention organization)

Tulsa Health Department

University of Oklahoma – Health Sciences Center, College of Public Health