

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Reproductive Care

#### **Is Swedish a Catholic hospital?**

- No. Swedish is a secular (non-faith-based) organization. Swedish affiliated with Providence Health & Services in 2012 to improve the health and well-being of our communities and increase access to care.

#### **Does Swedish follow the Ethical and Religious Directives (ERDs) for Catholic Health Care Services?**

- No. The affiliation agreement states that Swedish is a non-faith-based health care institution and is not required to follow the ERDs.

#### **Does Swedish perform elective abortions?**

- No. Following clinical best practice, Swedish believes elective abortions are best performed in an outpatient setting. Swedish clinicians are able to refer to these providers/outpatient settings.

#### **What happens to Swedish patients seeking an elective abortion?**

- Swedish physicians can refer patients seeking an elective abortion to an appropriate, outpatient provider. Our clinicians will always apply their best judgment to ensure patient safety.

#### **Can Swedish physicians discuss abortion with their patients?**

- Yes. There are no limitations on what a clinician can discuss with a patient.

#### **Will Swedish terminate a pregnancy if the health or life of the mother is at risk?**

- Yes. When necessary, on an emergency basis, termination of pregnancy procedures may be performed at Swedish facilities. Swedish clinicians exercise their own best medical judgment to ensure safe, quality care for each patient.

#### **Does Swedish provide birth control services such as tubal ligations and vasectomies?**

- Yes. Swedish offers a full range of birth control services, including tubal ligations and vasectomies.

#### **Where can I learn more about your reproductive care policies?**

- On our website at [www.swedish.org/about/overview/policies](http://www.swedish.org/about/overview/policies).
- Patients can also talk with their provider.