

## The Role of the Clinic Manager

The role of Clinic Manager (CM) is central to the smooth functioning of the entire medical services and not infrequently, this person also provides the medical services, such as ultrasound examinations and sexually transmitted infection testing. Medically appropriate candidates include registered diagnostic medical sonographers, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and physicians.

Most of the tasks may be performed equally well by an RDMS or an RN. Graduates of accredited sonography programs or nursing schools will have completed rigorous didactic education in the biological sciences, human disease, and health. Both will have accumulated hours and hours of clinical experience. The sonographer who passes the registry exam, thus earning the title of RDMS, has become highly skilled at performing a complex medical procedure and is a great asset to any medical pregnancy center.

A registered nurse is trained to approach his/her patients as wholes, providing comprehensive health assessments. The skill set of a typical registered nurse includes an intake history that covers the patient's health, family structure, support system, employment, emotional well-being, and religious affiliation. RNs create treatment plans for their patients. The registered nurse is widely recognized and accepted as the traditional, key provider of healthcare in most settings.

It is important to note that neither profession is "better" than the other, they're just different. Further, it is not a matter of ability, knowledge, or skill, per se. A well-trained RDMS is more than capable of learning to obtain vital signs, draw blood, and run a simple urine pregnancy test. He/she might even be asked to do a variety of tasks that are not in the typical bailiwick of an RDMS in the medical pregnancy center clinic setting where she is employed. The pregnancy center setting is unique: it is highly scrutinized, facing accusations of "fake clinic", as well as legislative efforts to limit or shut services down. Medical pregnancy centers must strive to be above reproach, providing the highest quality care, and adhering to best medical practice standards. This is the chief reason why it may be problematic for a center to have medical personnel performing tasks or having responsibilities that are outside the normal scope of service for that profession.

Experienced RDMSs are a tremendous asset to centers, because of their extensive ultrasound experience and, unlike the nurse sonographer, the RDMS may train new nurses to perform limited OB scans. The RDMS may perform any duties that are part of her training, her experience and the scope of service for her certification.