NEW YORK STILL HAS NOT ENDED ITS RACIST PRACTICE OF TESTING AND REPORTING PARENTS AND NEWBORNS TO CPS!

NYC Health and Hospital Corporation’s (HHC) new policy mandating health care providers to obtain written informed consent before testing pregnant people is a step toward undoing the dehumanizing and harmful practice of “test and report,” but it falls woefully short of disentangling health care from CPS.

HERE ARE SOME QUICK FACTS:

- Nothing in HHC’s new policy stops hospitals from drug testing newborns without parental consent.
- The policy moves away from drug testing (taking of urine) to UNIVERSAL drug screening (survey/conversation with doctor)
- There is no requirement for consent to drug screens, even though they may lead to overreporting of Black parents to CPS.
- It is STILL within the provider’s discretion to drug test the patient.
- If the drug test is ordered, the provider must DOCUMENT the medical reason for the test, the purpose of the test and how the results will be integrated into care.

This shift to universal screening without interrogating the racism entrenched in hospitals will not eliminate racial disparities in reporting to CPS or increase enrollment in treatment. Studies show that even with universal screening, Black women were 4x more likely to be reported to CPS than white women, despite the fact that all women were screened.

TO RESIST:

- Advocate that all parents get Miranda type warnings at bit.ly/38WhGrE
- Reimagine Support with us and demand real informed consent join the campaign at bit.ly/3nyT1x8

FOR IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE:

- Text Radical Health to get immediate answers to your health care questions: 6466473455
- If you suspect or have an NYC ACS investigation contact a lawyer: bit.ly/2ISYRdZ

Join us for a teach in on this policy Monday at 4:30 EST on zoom: bit.ly/32ZFEym.

ASL interpretation will be available.