

ABORTION

WITH MIFEPRISTONE
PLUS MISOPROSTOL
(COMBINED METHOD)

EFFICACY OF THE MEDICATION

Abortion using Mifepristone plus Misoprostol is very safe and is effective 95-98% of the times if taken during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.

IN CASE THE MEDICATION DID NOT WORK



Repeat the abortion by repeating Medical Abortion or by having Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA). There is a very small risk of birth defects if pregnancy continues after taking misoprostol.



ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Women HelpWomen
WEB: [HTTPS://WOMENHELP.ORG/](https://WOMENHELP.ORG/)
EMAIL: INFO@WOMENHELP.ORG
TWITTER: [@WOMENHELPORG](https://TWITTER.COM/WOMENHELPORG)
FACEBOOK: [WOMENHELPWOMENINTERNATIONAL](https://FACEBOOK.COM/WOMENHELPWOMENINTERNATIONAL)

MAMA Network: Mobilizing Activists around Medical Abortion (MAMA).
WEB: WWW.MAMANETWORK.ORG

WAS MY ABORTION SUCCESSFUL?

Even if the woman feels she is not pregnant anymore, it is important to make sure the abortion was successful. Women should either do an ultrasound after the medical abortion or do a pregnancy test 3-4 weeks after the abortion.



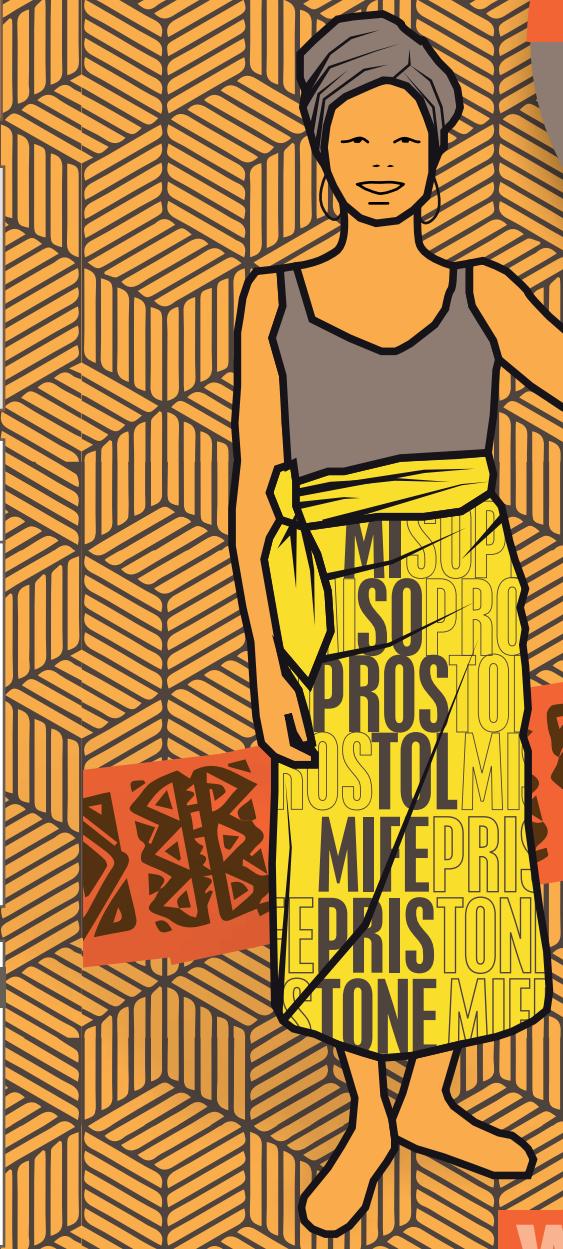
In case the woman **doesn't bleed**, has **little bleeding** (less than menstruation and without clots) and or **continues to have pregnancy symptoms** after using the pills it is likely she is still pregnant. She should **do an ultrasound** as soon as possible to check if the pregnancy continues or not, if this isn't possible she can use the pills again.



AFTER THE ABORTION



- After the abortion, a woman should expect light bleeding for 1-3 weeks, but every woman is different.
- Women are advised not to insert anything into the vagina (tampons), have bath and sex until heavy bleeding stops, approximately for 2 days, after a medication abortion
- A woman can get pregnant immediately after an abortion!** If she doesn't want to get pregnant immediately she can start good contraception to prevent a new unwanted pregnancy.



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HOW DOES IT WORK?

Medical abortion causes a process like a miscarriage



Mifepristone



Misoprostol

Mifepristone blocks the progesterone, an hormone important for the pregnancy and makes the uterus more receptive to Misoprostol.



Misoprostol causes contractions of the uterus, which result in the expulsion of the pregnancy tissue, clots and blood.

UNTIL WHEN CAN IT BE USED FOR SAFE ABORTION



0 ➞ 12 weeks

It can be used up to 12 weeks, counting from the first day of the last menstrual cycle.

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HOW TO USE TO INDUCE AN ABORTION?



MIFEPRISTONE 200 mg MISOPROSTOL 200 mcg each



The Mifepristone should be swallowed with a glass of water

24 hours later the woman can use 4 pills of Misoprostol



between the gum and the cheek **two on the left side and two on the right side.**

All four pills should be left in the mouth for approximately 30 minutes to dissolve. Remains can be swallowed afterwards.



30 min



POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS



Within the first 24 hours the following symptoms may occur: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fever with or without chills, headache and / or dizziness. These side effects are not dangerous and will disappear within few hours.




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WHAT CAN BE EXPECTED AFTER USING THE MEDICATION?



Cramps and vaginal bleeding stronger than during normal menstruation.



In 90% of cases, the expulsion of the pregnancy happens during the first 6 hours after use of misoprostol.



Painkillers can be taken at the same time as misoprostol. **Ibuprofen** is the most effective. **Paracetamol/ acetaminophen** can be used in addition.

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WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS (COMPLICATIONS)?



Excessive bleeding (2 or 3 pads filled per hour for more than 2 or 3 hours in a row)



High Fever of more than 39 Celsius or 38 Celsius for more than 24h



Strong pain that isn't relieved with painkillers few days after taking the medicines



Smelly, abnormal vaginal discharge

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF COMPLICATIONS?



Go immediately to a health center.

In case of a medical emergency, **medical personnel have the obligation to attend to the person in a timely manner**. The treatment for complications is the same as for complications after a miscarriage. **It is not possible to see the difference between a miscarriage and an induced abortion with misoprostol**. A woman in need of medical care can **say she has had a miscarriage**.