

Frequently Asked Questions	Abortion Pill Medication Abortion	In-Clinic Abortion Aspiration Abortion
How far along in the pregnancy can I be?	Up to 9 weeks into the pregnancy.	Up to 14 weeks into the pregnancy.
How long does it take?	The time in the health center is about 1 hour.	The time in the health center is about 3 hours.
What will happen?	<p>The actual abortion usually takes place at home. In the office, you will swallow the abortion pill (mifepristone).</p> <p>At home (most commonly), you take the misoprostol pills 24 to 48 hours later.</p> <p>The abortion usually starts 1 to 4 hours after you take the misoprostol. You will probably have heavy bleeding and cramps for a couple of hours. The process is usually complete within 24 hours, but can take up to several days.</p> <p>You will come back to the office about 1 week later.</p>	<p>The abortion takes place in the office.</p> <p>You will receive medication to help you manage the procedure.</p> <p>The actual abortion procedure takes about 5 minutes.</p> <p>The provider will use gentle suction to remove the pregnancy.</p> <p>You will have cramps for several minutes during this time.</p> <p>You will be in the recovery area with nursing care for 20 to 30 minutes.</p>
What professionals are involved?	Medication is administered by a clinician or physician.	An Advanced Practice Clinician or Physician performs the procedure.
How painful is it?	<p>Women have mild to very strong cramps on and off.</p> <p>Pain pills can help.</p> <p>Each woman is different in how she experiences pain.</p>	<p>Women have mild to very strong cramps on and off.</p> <p>*medications are available*</p> <p>Each woman is different in how she experiences pain.</p>
How much will I bleed?	<p>Heavy bleeding is common during the abortion. Clots up to the size of a lemon may be passed.</p> <p>After that, lighter bleeding lasts 1-2 weeks.</p>	<p>Some women will have little to no bleeding.</p> <p>Bleeding may continue off and on for a few weeks.</p>
How much does it cost?	Call an abortion provider or Planned Parenthood for costs. Planned Parenthood can be reached at 1 (800) 230-7526.	Call an abortion provider or Planned Parenthood for costs. Planned Parenthood can be reached at 1 (800) 230-7526.
Can the abortion fail? What if it does?	Medication abortion works 97-99% of the time. If it fails, you can take another pill or have an in-clinic (aspiration) abortion.	It works 99% of the time. If it fails, you must have a repeat in-clinic (aspiration) abortion.
Can I still have children afterwards?	A safe, legal abortion does not change your baseline fertility (your chance of getting pregnant based on your own body).	A safe, legal abortion does not change your baseline fertility (your chance of getting pregnant based on your own body).

FAQs	Abortion Pill/Medication Abortion	In-Clinic Abortion/Aspiration Abortion
Is it safe?	<p>Both pills have been used safely for more than 10 years.</p> <p>Serious problems are rare.</p> <p>Your provider will review the risks with you (bleeding, infection, continuing pregnancy).</p>	<p>Aspiration abortion has been performed safely for decades. Abortion in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy leads to very few problems.</p> <p>Your provider will review the risks with you (bleeding, injury to internal organs, infection, incomplete abortion).</p>
What are the advantages?	<p>To some women, it feels more natural, like a miscarriage.</p> <p>You won't have shots, anesthesia or instruments in your body, unless the pills don't work.</p> <p>Being at home instead of in an office may be more private and comfortable for you.</p>	<p>It is over in a few minutes.</p> <p>It works 99% of the time.</p> <p>You see less bleeding than you would with the abortion pill.</p> <p>Medical staff are there with you throughout the procedure.</p>
What are the disadvantages?	<p>It is at least a 2 day process.</p> <p>Bleeding lasts longer than with the in-clinic abortion.</p> <p>Pain medicines may cause side effects.</p> <p>Requires a follow-up.</p>	<p>A provider must insert instruments inside your uterus.</p> <p>Pain medications may cause side effects.</p> <p>You have less control over the abortion procedure.</p>
What follow up is required or recommended?	<p>Patients must be available for telephone and mail contact until the abortion is complete.</p> <p>A follow up visit is required, between 3 and 15 days.</p> <p>Ultrasound or a blood test will confirm that the pregnancy was ended.</p> <p>Additional follow-up may be necessary.</p>	<p>A follow up visit is available, but usually not required, 2-3 weeks after abortion.</p>
Is there a minimum age requirement?	<p>These vary by state. Check your individual state's laws.</p>	<p>These vary by state. Check your individual state's laws.</p>
What is required for a non-English speaking patient?	<p>A professional interpreter will be provided during appointments.</p> <p>The patient must have someone with her at home who can interpret for her until the abortion is complete.</p>	<p>A professional interpreter will be provided for the abortion appointment.</p>
Where can I get an abortion?	<p>The Abortion Pill can be administered at various health centers. Call a local abortion provider or Planned Parenthood at 1 (800) 230-7526.</p>	<p>In-clinic abortion services are provided at various health centers. Call a local abortion provider or Planned Parenthood at 1 (800) 230-7526.</p>