



Early medical abortion procedure summary

Information for EMA providers

Request

- Request for early medical abortion and MS2 Step provider

- For non-prescribers or greater than 63 days gestation, refer to 1800 My Options 1800 696 784

For complete guidelines see:

PGP Abortion: [Medical management up to 9 weeks of pregnancy, Abortion or Miscarriage - Management of presentation following medical or surgical abortion or miscarriage](#)

Initial assessment

- Confirm intrauterine pregnancy (IUP), up to 63 days
- Confirm choice of medical abortion method
- Establish informed voluntary choice for medical abortion

Clinical assessment

Baseline investigations

- Ultrasound recommended – confirm gestational age, visualisation of YS confirms IUP
- Pathology – bhCG, FBC, syphilis
- STI screen – minimum gonorrhoea, chlamydia
- Review history – medical, gynaecological, obstetric, contraceptive, sexual
- Psychosocial assessment – include screening for domestic, family violence and reproductive coercion
- Exclude contraindications

Script and consent to proceed

Administration of MS2step

- Step 1 – Mifepristone, 200mg oral, followed 24-48 hours later by
- Step 2 – Misoprostol 800mg buccal

Medications

- Paracetamol 1g 4-6 hourly PRN or Paracetamol-codeine 1g-60mg 4-6 hourly PRN (maximum 4g paracetamol per 24 hours) and Ibuprofen 400mg 8-hourly PRN
- Metoclopramide 10mg 8-hourly PRN or Ondansetron 4mg 8-12 hourly

Managing the procedure

- Side-effects – establish accurate expectations for pain and bleeding

Pain management

- Anticipate double usual menstrual period
- Use of therapeutic techniques such as rest, heat packs, massage
- Consider graduated pain relief strategy
- Pre-load medications prior to misoprostol dose

Bleeding

- Onset of bleeding and cramping within 1-6 hours of misoprostol, settles once products expelled
- Average bleeding 16 days, can be up to 30 days

Identify available supports

Discuss and plan for access to emergency care

Establish follow-up plan

Follow-up

Day 3-5 following Misoprostal, via telephone

- Experience of bleeding and cramping the first 24 hours post misoprostol
- Persistent heavy bleeding
- Signs of infection and

Day 14 -21 direct or telephone

Assess for:

- Heavy or persistent bleeding
- Signs of infection
- Signs and symptoms of pregnancy (failed)

Use serum or low sensitivity urine hCG test to confirm the procedure

Follow signs and symptoms to resolution

Confirm contraception plan

See PGP: Abortion or Miscarriage - Management of presentation following medical or surgical abortion or miscarriage

Revised guidance for Anti D

The National Blood Authority guidance states there is insufficient evidence for the routine use of Rh immunoglobulin before 10 weeks gestation. EMA is no longer listed as a sensitising event requiring immunoprophylaxis. View guideline at www.blood.gov.au/anti-d-0