

# Early Medical Abortion (up to 10 weeks of pregnancy)

# **Risks and Complications**

# **Immediate Complications**

(Estimates given below are based on extensive world literature)

1 in 1000 of women will require a blood transfusion due to excessive blood loss.

10 in 1000 (1%) will require emergency surgical evacuation in the 6 hours following misoprostol due to bleeding.

10-20 in 1000 (1-2%) will receive an injection to contract the womb at the time of abortion.

50% do not require any pain relief

#### Side effects of drugs

Nausea	- 40%
Vomiting	- 20%
Diarrhoea	- 15%
Headaches	- 15%
Flushes/sweats	- 25%
Duration of bleeding	14 days
(Range – 1 – 69 days)	



# **Delayed complication**

#### **Early Weeks**

- Retained products of conception 2-3/100
- Uterine/pelvic infection 3 in 1000
- Short term emotional distress
- Continuing pregnancy
  - gestation up to 49 days 2 in 1000
  - gestation 50 63 days 6 in 1000

#### Long Term

#### a) Future reproductive outcome

There is no proven association between abortion and ectopic pregnancy or infertility. However it may be associated with a small increase in the risk of subsequent miscarriage or preterm delivery.

#### b) Psychological sequalae

These are rare. Some studies suggest a small increased risk of suicide, attempted suicide or self harm after abortion. These may reflect continuation of pre-existing condition.

# **Breast Cancer Risk**

There is no association between induced abortion and breast cancer.

# If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Gynae Assessment Unit Calderdale Royal Hospital

Telephone No: 01422 224979 / 224415 / 224416

www.cht.nhs.uk

### If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

ਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

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"إذا احتجت الحصول على هذه المعلومة بشكل مغاير أو مترجمة إلى لغة مختلفة فيرجى منك الاتصال بالقسم المذكور أعلاه"

