





# Country Profile: France

Region: Western Europe

Last Updated: 15 December 2023

- Reproductive Health Act
- General Medical Health Act Constitution
- Criminal / Penal Code
   Civil Code
- Ministerial Order / Decree
   Case Law
- ✓ Health Regulation / Clinical Guidelines
- EML / Registered List
- Medical Ethics Code
- Document Relating to Funding
- Abortion Specific Law
   Law on Medical Practicioners
   Law on Health Care Services
   Other

#### **Related Documents**

#### From General Medical Health Act:

- Law on Modernisation of the Health System
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021

#### From Criminal / Penal Code:

- Penal Code
- Law on the Extension of the Offense of Obstructing the Voluntary Termination of Pregnancy, 2016

#### From Ministerial Order / Decree:

• Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022

#### From Health Regulation / Clinical Guidelines:

- Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy up to 14 weeks
- Medical Abortion Good Practice Recommendations
- Post-abortion Contraception Information
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- France Medical Abortion Guide for Healthcare Staff, 2023

#### From EML / Registered List:

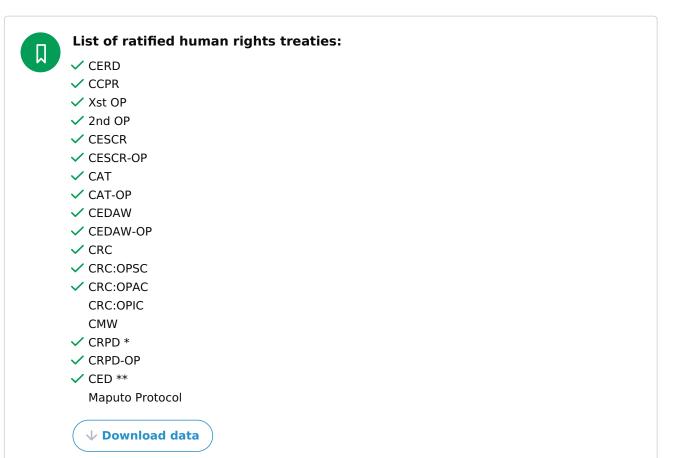
• National Agency for the Security of Medicines and Health Products, 2005

#### From Medical Ethics Code:

• Bioethics Law, 2021

#### From Abortion Specific Law:

• Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022





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#### **Concluding Observations:**

- CEDAW
- CEDAW

Persons who can be sanctioned:

A woman or girl can be sanctioned

- $\checkmark$  Providers can be sanctioned
- ✓ A person who assists can be sanctioned

Abortion at the woman's request

✓ Gestational limit: 14 weeks

Legal Ground and Gestational Limit

#### Not specified

When there is no explicit reference to an issue covered in the questionnaire in the relevant document(s), this is noted and no interpretation was made.

#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Health grounds shall reflect WHO's definitions of health, which entails a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Abortion Care Guideline § 2.2.2.

#### ✓ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 16)

#### Foetal impairment

#### **Related documents:**

Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)
- Bioethics Law, 2021 (page 23)

#### **Gestational limit**

#### Weeks: No limit specified

- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)
- Bioethics Law, 2021 (page 23 )
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 3)
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1)

### WHO Guidance

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Grounds-based approaches to restricting access to abortion should be revised in favour of making abortion available on the request of the woman, girl or other pregnant person. The Abortion Care Guideline recommends against laws and other regulations that restrict abortion by grounds. The guideline recommends abortion be available on the request of the woman, girl or other pregnant person.

Until they are replaced with abortion on request, any existing grounds should be formulated and applied in a manner consistent with international human rights law. This requires that abortion is available when carrying a pregnancy to term would cause the woman, girl or other pregnant person substantial pain or suffering, including but not limited to situations where the pregnancy is not viable. Grounds-based approaches that require fetal impairments to be fatal for abortion to be lawful frustrate providers and leave women no choice but to continue with pregnancy. Being required to continue with a pregnancy that causes significant distress violates numerous human rights. Abortion Care Guideline § 2.2.2.

#### Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 64)

Laws or policies that impose time limits on the length of pregnancy may have negative consequences for women, including forcing them to seek clandestine abortions and suffer social inequities. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.1.7.

↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 103)

Additional notes



Where the multiple nature of pregnancy seriously endangers the health of the woman, the fetuses or the embryos, the partial voluntary termination of a multiple pregnancy can be carried out until the end of 12th week of pregnancy if two doctors, members of a multidisciplinary team responsible for examining the woman's request, issue an advisory opinion certifying that the medical conditions, in particular obstetrical and psychological, are met. No criteria relating to the characteristics of embryos or fetuses, including their sex, may be taken into account for the partial voluntary termination of a multiple pregnancy.

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Bioethics Law, 2021 (page 23)

### Not specified

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#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

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Until they are replaced with abortion on request, any existing grounds should be formulated and applied in a manner consistent with international human rights law. This requires that abortion is available when carrying a pregnancy to term would cause the woman, girl or other pregnant person substantial pain or suffering, including but not limited to situations where the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest Abortion Care Guideline § 2.2.2.

↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 64)

#### Incest

#### Not specified

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#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
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Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 64)

#### Intellectual or cognitive disability of the woman

### Not specified

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- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### **Mental health**

#### Not specified 1

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#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
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Health grounds shall reflect WHO's definitions of health, which entails a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Abortion Care Guideline § 2.2.2.

↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 16)

#### **Physical health**

#### Not specified

When there is no explicit reference to an issue covered in the questionnaire in the relevant document(s), this is noted and no interpretation was made.

#### **Related documents:**

Penal Code

1

- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
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Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 16)

#### Health

#### **Related documents:**

Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Bioethics Law, 2021 (page 23)
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)

#### **Gestational limit**

#### Weeks: No limit specified

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 1)
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1)

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Health grounds shall reflect WHO's definitions of health, which entails a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Abortion Care Guideline § 2.2.2.

#### Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 16)

Laws or policies that impose time limits on the length of pregnancy may have negative consequences for women, including forcing them to seek clandestine abortions and suffer social inequities. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.1.7.

↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 103)



Where the multiple nature of pregnancy seriously endangers the health of the woman, the fetuses or the embryos, the partial voluntary termination of a multiple pregnancy can be carried out until the end of 12th week of pregnancy if two doctors, members of a multidisciplinary team responsible for examining the woman's request, issue an advisory opinion certifying that the medical conditions, in particular obstetrical and psychological, are met. No criteria relating to the characteristics of embryos or fetuses, including their sex, may be taken into account for the partial voluntary termination of a multiple pregnancy.

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Bioethics Law, 2021 (page 23)

#### Not specified

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#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
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Until they are replaced with abortion on request, any existing grounds should be formulated and applied in a manner consistent with international human rights law. This requires that abortion is available where the life and health of the woman, girl or other pregnant person is at risk. Abortion Care Guideline § 2.2.2.

Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 64)

Other

Foetal reduction can be carried out when the multiple nature of the pregnancy seriously endangers the health of the woman, the fetuses or the embryos.

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 23)
- Bioethics Law, 2021 (page 313)

#### Additional notes

The 2021 Bioethics Law specifies that the partial voluntary termination of a multiple pregnancy can be carried out until the end of 12th week of pregnancy if two doctors, members of a multipliciplinary team responsible for examining the woman's request, issue an advisory opinion certifying that the medical conditions, in particular obstetrical and psychological, are met. No criteria relating to the characteristics of embryos or fetuses, including their sex, may be taken into account for the partial voluntary termination of a multiple pregnancy.

#### Additional Requirements to Access Safe Abortion

No

#### Authorization of health professional(s)

#### **Related documents:**

- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1

### 🕦 WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Third-party authorization requirements are incompatible with international human rights law, which provides that States may not restrict women's access to health services on the ground that they do not have the authorization of husbands, partners, parents or health authorities, because they are unmarried, or because they are women. The Abortion Care Guideline recommends that abortion be available on the request of the woman, girl or other pregnant person without the authorization of any other individual, body or institution. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.3.2.

#### Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 81)

#### Additional notes

For terminations after 14 weeks of gestation, the following authorisation requirements obtain:

"The voluntary termination of a pregnancy may be practiced at any time if two physicians who are members of a multidisciplinary team certify, after this team has rendered its advisory opinion, that the continuation of the pregnancy jeopardizes the pregnancy Or that there is a high probability that the unborn child will be afflicted with a particularly serious condition recognized as incurable at the time of diagnosis.

Where termination of pregnancy is contemplated on the grounds that the continuation of pregnancy seriously jeopardizes the health of the woman, the multidisciplinary team responsible for examining the woman's request shall include at least four persons who are a qualified medical practitioner. Gynecology and obstetrics, a member of a multidisciplinary prenatal diagnostic center, a practitioner specializing in the affliction of which the woman is a victim, a doctor chosen by the woman and a qualified person subject to professional secrecy who may be a social worker or a psychologist . The physician qualified in gynecology and obstetrics and the physician qualified in the treatment of the condition of which the woman is affected must carry out their activity in a health establishment.

Where termination of pregnancy is contemplated on the basis that there is a high probability that the unborn child will have a particularly serious condition recognized as incurable at the time of diagnosis, the multidisciplinary team Demand of the woman is that of a multidisciplinary center of prenatal diagnosis.

When the team of the aforementioned center meets, a doctor chosen by the woman may, at the request of the latter, be associated with the consultation. Except for medical emergencies, the woman is given a period of reflection of at least one week before deciding to interrupt or continue her pregnancy."

Authorization in specially licensed facilities only	No  Related documents:  Public dealth Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311.)  Bay on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1).  WhO Guidance  The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.  To establish an enabling environment, there is a need for abortion care to be integrated into the health system across all levels (including primary, secondary and tertiary) - and supported in the community - to allow for expansion of health worker roles, including self-management approaches. To ensure both access to abortion and achievement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), abortion must be centred within primary health care (PHC), which itself is fully integrated within the health system, facilitating referral pathways for higher-level care when needed. Abortion care Guideline § 1.4.1.  w Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 52)
Judicial authorization for minors	No  Related documents:  • France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 22)  WHO Guidance  The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.  The Abortion Care Guideline recommends that abortion be available on the request of the woman, girl or other pregnant person without the authorization of any other individual, body or institution. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.3.2.  Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 81)
Judicial authorization in cases of rape	Not applicable         Image: Constraint of the process of the proces
Police report required in case of rape	Not applicable          WHO Guidance         The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.         There shall be no procedural requirements to "prove" or "establish" satisfaction of grounds, such as requiring judicial orders or police reports in cases of rape or sexual assault (for sources to support this information). These restrictions subject the individual to unnecessary trauma, may put them at increased risk from the perpetrator, and may cause women to resort to unsafe abortion.

The Abertian Care Cuideline recommands chartien be subjichle on the request of the woman wirl or other program therean. Abertian Care Cuideline 5.2.2

	The Abortion Care Guideline recommends abortion be available on the request of the woman, girl or other pregnant person. Abortion Care Guideline § 2.2.2.
Parental consent required for minors	No Related documents:
	<ul> <li>France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 22)</li> <li>Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312)</li> <li>https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1</li> </ul>

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

While parental or partner involvement in abortion decision-making can support and assist women, girls or other pregnant persons, this must be based on the values and preferences of the person availing of abortion and not imposed by third-party authorization requirements. Third-party authorization requirements are incompatible with international human rights law, which provides that States may not restrict women's access to health services on the ground that they do not have the authorization of husbands, partners, parents or health authorities, because they are unmarried, or because they are women. The Abortion Care Guideline recommends that abortion be available on the request of the woman, girl or other pregnant person without the authorization of any other individual, body or institution. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.3.2.

✓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 81)

### Additional notes

If the woman is a non-emancipated minor, the consent of one of the holders of parental authority or, where applicable, of her legal representative shall be obtained. This consent shall be attached to the request that she presents to the physician or midwife, without the presence of any other person. If the non-emancipated minor desires to maintain confidentiality, the physician or midwife must strive, in her interest, to obtain her consent that one or both of the holders of parental authority or, where applicable, of the legal representative be consulted or must verify that this step has been taken during the discussion referred to in article L. 2212-4 of the Public Health Code. If the minor desires not to take this step or if consent is not obtained, the voluntary termination of pregnancy as well as the medical procedures and care that are related to it may be performed at the request of the interested person, set out in the conditions provided for in the first paragraph. In this case the minor shall be accompanied in her step by an adult of her choice.

#### Spousal consent

### Not specified

When there is no explicit reference to an issue covered in the questionnaire in the relevant document(s), this is noted and no interpretation was made.

#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

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→ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 81)

### Additional notes

The Public Health Code indicates that whenever possible the couple shall participate in the decision to take.

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312)

Ultrasound images or listen to foetal heartbeat required

### Not specified

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#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

### 💓 WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

The right to refuse information, including the right to refuse viewing ultrasound images, must be respected. The Abortion Care Guideline recommends against the use of ultrasound scanning as a prerequisite for providing abortion services for both medical and surgical abortion. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.3.5.

Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 85)

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312 )
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 6)

## WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

While counselling should be made available and accessible, it should always be voluntary for women to choose whether or not they want to receive it. The right to refuse counselling when offered must be respected. Where provided, counselling must be available to individuals in a way that respects privacy and confidentiality.

Counselling should be person-centred and may need to be tailored according to the needs of the individual; young people, survivors of sexual and gender-based violence or members of marginalized groups may have different information or counselling requirements.

The content of and approach to counselling will need to be adjusted depending on the reason for seeking abortion services. Therefore, it is important for the counsellor to be aware of and sensitive to the individual's situation and needs. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.2.2.

↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 77)

#### Additional notes

The following is mandatory for non-emancipated minor women, not for adult women: a consultation with a person who having trained and qualified in marriage counseling or any other qualified person in a institution providing information, consultation or family advice, a family planning or education centre, a social service or another approved body. This preliminary consultation includes a special interview in which assistance or advice appropriate to the situation of the applicant are brought to her.

Compulsory waiting	Νο
period	Related documents:
	<ul> <li>https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1</li> <li>Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312)</li> <li>Law on Modernisation of the Health System (page 22)</li> <li>France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 7)</li> </ul>
	WHO Guidance
	The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.
	Mandatory waiting periods delay access to abortion, sometimes to the extent that women's access to abortion or choice of abortion method is restricted. The Abortion Care Guideline recommends against mandatory waiting periods for abortion. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.3.1.
	↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 79)
	Additional notes
	According to the articles L. 2212-4 and L. 2212-5 of the Public Health Code, if the person requesting abortion is a minor, a consultation with a counselor or a social worker has to take place at least 48 hours before abortion. This consultation is mandatory for minors and optional for adults.
Mandatory HIV screening test	No Related documents: • France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 9)
	WHO Guidance
	The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.
	Regulatory, policy and programmatic barriers – as well as barriers in practice – that hinder access to and timely provision of quality abortion care should be removed. Abortion Care Guideline § Box 2.1.
	✓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 59)
	Additional notes
	Screening for infections
	sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection, as well as cervical cancer screening (from 25 years old and onwards), can be done as per the choice and request of the pregnant person.
Other mandatory ST	Νο
screening tests	Related documents:
	• France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 9)
	WHO Guidance
	The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.
	Regulatory, policy and programmatic barriers – as well as barriers in practice – that hinder access to and timely provision of quality abortion care should be removed. Abortion Care Guideline § Box 2.1.
	✓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 59)

Screening for infections

Additional notes

sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection, as well as cervical cancer screening (from 25 years old and onwards), can be done as per the choice and request of the pregnant person.

### Not specified

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#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
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### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

In situations where abortion is restricted for sex selection purposes, terminating a pregnancy for this reason is likely to involve an unsafe procedure carrying high risks. Any policies or guidelines on the use of technology in obstetric and fetal medicine should take into account the need to ensure women's access to safe abortion and other services - efforts to manage or limit sex selection should also not hamper or limit access to safe abortion services. Preventing gender-biased sex selection: an interagency statement.

↓ **Source document**: Preventing Gender-Biased Sex Selection (page 17)

#### Additional notes

The 2021 Bioethics Law stipulates that no criteria relating to the characteristics of embryos or fetuses, including their sex, may be taken into account for the partial voluntary termination of a multiple pregnancy.

#### **Related documents:**

• Bioethics Law, 2021 (page 23)

#### Restrictions on information provided to the public

No data found

WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Dissemination of misinformation, withholding of information and censorship should be prohibited.

Information should be accessible and understandable, including formats catering to low-literacy and differently abled populations. Different modalities exist for the provision of information on abortion, e.g. remote access via hotlines and telemedicine, and through approaches such as harm reduction and community-based outreach, as well as in-person interactions with health workers. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.2.1.

Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 74)

#### Additional notes

Preventing or attempting to prevent practicing or learning about a voluntary termination of pregnancy or the prior acts provided for by articles L. 2212- 3 to L. 2212-8 by any means, including electronically or online, in particular by the dissemination or transmission of allegations or indications likely to be intentionally misleading, with a dissuasive purpose, on the characteristics or the medical consequences of a voluntary termination of pregnancy is punishable by two years' imprisonment and a fine of 30,000 euros.

#### **Related documents:**

- Law on the Extension of the Offense of Obstructing the Voluntary Termination of Pregnancy, 2016 (page 1)
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 316)

Restrictions on methods to detect sex of the foetus

### Not specified

When there is no explicit reference to an issue covered in the questionnaire in the relevant document(s), this is noted and no interpretation was made.



#### **Related documents:**

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

A woman is entitled to know the status of her pregnancy and to act on this information. Prenatal tests and other medical diagnostic services cannot legally be refused because the woman may decide to terminate her pregnancy. Safe Abortion Guidelines § 4.2.1.4.

✓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 103)

Other

Clinical and Service-delivery Aspects of Abortion Care

National guidelines for induced abortion	Yes, guidelines issued by the government Related documents:		
	<ul> <li>Voluntary Interruption of pregnancy up to 14 weeks (page 1)</li> <li>Medical Abortion Good Practice Recommendations (page 1)</li> </ul>		
	WHO Guidance		
	The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.		
	National standards and guidelines for abortion care should be evidence based and periodically updated and should provide the necessary guidance to achieve equal access to comprehensive abortion care. Leadership should also promote evidence-based SRH services according to these standards and guidelines. Abortion Care Guideline § 1.3.3.		
	J Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 50)		
Methods allowed	Vacuum aspiration		
	Yes (98 DAYS 14 WEEKS)		
	<ul> <li>Voluntary Interruption of pregnancy up to 14 weeks (page 1)</li> <li>Medical Abortion Good Practice Recommendations (page 1)</li> <li>Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1)</li> </ul>		
	Dilatation and evacuation		
	Not specified		
	<ul> <li>Voluntary Interruption of pregnancy up to 14 weeks</li> <li>Medical Abortion Good Practice Recommendations</li> <li>Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022</li> </ul>		
	Combination mifepristone-misoprostol		
	Yes (63 DAYS 9 WEEKS (but no specified limit for medical reasons) WEEKS)		
	<ul> <li>Voluntary Interruption of pregnancy up to 14 weeks (page 1)</li> <li>Medical Abortion Good Practice Recommendations (page 1)</li> <li>Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1)</li> </ul>		
	Misoprostol only		
	Not specified		
	<ul> <li>Voluntary Interruption of pregnancy up to 14 weeks</li> <li>Medical Abortion Good Practice Recommendations</li> <li>Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022</li> </ul>		
	Other (where provided)		
	WHO Guidance		

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Vacuum aspiration is recommended for surgical abortions at or under 14 weeks to be provided by traditional and complementary medicine professionals, nurses, midwives, associate/advanced associate clinicians, generalist medical practitioners and specialist medical practitioners.

The Abortion Care Guideline recommends against the practice of dilatation and sharp curettage (D&C), including for sharp curette checks (i.e. to "complete" the abortion) following vacuum aspiration. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.4.1.

#### **↓ Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 101)

Dilation and evacuation (D&E) is recommended for surgical abortions at or over 14 weeks to be provided by generalist medical practitioners and specialist medical practitioners. Vacuum aspiration can be used during a D&E. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.4.1.

↓ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 103)

The recommended method for medical abortion is mifepristone followed by misoprostol (regimen differs by gestational age). Abortion Care Guideline § 3.4.2.

✓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 106)

The Abortion Care Guideline recommends the use of misoprostol alone, with a regime that differs by gestational age. Evidence demonstrates that the use of combination mifepristone plus misoprostol is more effective than misoprostol alone. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.4.2.

✓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 106)

**Country recognized** approval (mifepristone / mifemisoprostol)

#### Yes

#### **Related documents:**

- Amendment to List of Generic Groups in Public Health Code 2014 (page 33)
- Public Review Report Mifegyne National Agency for the Security of Medicines and Health (page 1)
- National Agency for the Security of Medicines and Health Products, 2005 (page 1)

#### Pharmacy selling or distribution

Yes, with prescription only

• Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1)

#### **WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Mifepristone and misoprostol should be listed in relevant national EMLs (NEMLs) or their equivalent and should be included in the relevant clinical care/service delivery guidelines.

Inclusion in the NEML is one important component of ensuring that quality medicines are available.

For induced abortion, Mifepristone (200 mg) and misoprostol (200 μg), are recommended in the WHO EML. The EML specifically mentions the following co-packaged formulation: 1 tablet mifepristone (200 mg) + 4 tablets misoprostol (200 µg).

Restrictions on prescribing authority for some categories of health workers may need to be modified or other mechanisms put in place to make the medicines available for these health workers within the regulatory framework of the health system. Abortion Care Guideline § 1.4.4.

↓ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 55)

Mifepristone and misoprostol should be listed in relevant national EMLs (NEMLs) or their equivalent and should be included in the relevant clinical care/service delivery guidelines.

Inclusion in the NEML is one important component of ensuring that quality medicines are available.

For induced abortion, Mifepristone (200 mg) and misoprostol (200 µg), are recommended in the WHO EML. The EML specifically mentions the following co-packaged formulation: 1 tablet mifepristone (200 mg) + 4 tablets misoprostol (200  $\mu$ g).

Restrictions on prescribing authority for some categories of health workers may need to be modified or other mechanisms put in place to make the medicines available for these health workers within the regulatory framework of the health system. Abortion Care Guideline § 1.4.4.

↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 55)

**Country recognized** 

approval (misoprostol) Yes, for gynaecological indications

**Related documents:** 

• Patient Notice Gymiso National Agency for the Security of Medicines and Health Products (page 1)

#### Misoprostol allowed to be sold or distributed by pharmacies or drug stores

Yes, with prescription only

• Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1)

#### **WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Mifepristone and misoprostol should be listed in relevant national EMLs (NEMLs) or their equivalent and should be included in the relevant clinical care/service delivery guidelines.

Inclusion in the NEML is one important component of ensuring that quality medicines are available.

For induced abortion, Mifepristone (200 mg) and misoprostol (200 µg) are recommended in the WHO EML. The EML specifically mentions the following co-packaged formulation: 1 tablet

mifepristone (200 mg) + 4 tablets misoprostol (200 µg).

Restrictions on prescribing authority for some categories of health workers may need to be modified or other mechanisms put in place to make the medicines available for these health workers within the regulatory framework of the health system. Abortion Care Guideline § 1.4.4.

↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 55)

### Where can abortion services be provided

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311 )
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1 )
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1)

#### **Primary health-care centres**

#### Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311 )
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1 )
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1)

#### Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities

#### Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311)
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1)
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1)

#### Specialized abortion care public facilities

#### Not specified

- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### **Private health-care centres or clinics**

#### Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311)
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1 )
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1)

#### NGO health-care centres or clinics

#### Not specified

- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### **Other (if applicable)**

#### Through teleconsultation

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311)
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022 (page 1 )
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1)

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Where it is lawful, abortion must be accessible in practice. This requires both ensuring that health-care facilities, commodities and services are accessible (including sufficient providers), and that law and policy on abortion is formulated, interpreted and applied in a way that is compatible with human rights. Abortion Care Guideline § 1.3.1.

#### Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 48)

### Additional notes

Abortion may only take place in a public or private health facility or within the framework of an agreement concluded between such a facility and a practitioner, a center for family education or family planning, or a health center under conditions determined by a decree of the State Council.(1, article L2212-2) Medical abortions may be provided in Centres for Family Planning or Family Education. Doctors may provide medical abortions outside of health establishments up to seven weeks of gestation.

#### **Related documents:**

• Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1)

National guidelines for post-abortion care Yes, guidelines issued by the government

#### **Related documents:**

- Voluntary Interruption of pregnancy up to 14 weeks (page 1 )
- Medical Abortion Good Practice Recommendations (page 1)



The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

National standards and guidelines for abortion care should be evidence based and periodically updated and should provide the necessary guidance to achieve equal access to comprehensive abortion care. Leadership should also promote evidence-based SRH services according to these standards and guidelines. Abortion Care Guideline § 1.3.3.

↓ Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 50)

#### Where can post abortion care services be provided

#### Primary health-care centres

#### Not specified

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities

#### Not specified

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### Specialized abortion care public facilities

#### Not specified

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### **Private health-care centres or clinics**

Not specified

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### NGO health-care centres or clinics

#### Not specified

- Penal Code
- Bioethics Law, 2021
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/26-France-Medical-Abortion-Guide-for-Healthcare-Staff-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

### ( WHO Guidance

	WHO Guidance
	The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.
	The Abortion Care Guideline recommends the option of telemedicine as an alternative to in-person interactions with the health worker to deliver medical abortion services in whole or in part. Telemedicine services should include referrals (based on the woman's location) for medicines (abortion and pain control medicines), any abortion care or post-abortion follow-up required (including for emergency care if needed), and for post-abortion contraceptive services. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.6.1. <b>Source document</b> : WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 133)
Contraception included in post- abortion care	Yes Related documents:
	<ul> <li>https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 17)</li> <li>Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311)</li> </ul>
	• Voluntary Interruption of pregnancy up to 14 weeks (page 1 )
	Medical Abortion Good Practice Recommendations (page 1)
	Post- abortion Contraception Information (page 1)
	WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

All contraceptive options may be considered after an abortion. For individuals undergoing surgical abortion and wishing to use contraception, Abortion Care Guideline recommends the option of initiating the contraception at the time of surgical abortion. For individuals undergoing medical abortion, for those who choose to use hormonal contraception, the Abortion Care Guideline suggests that they be given the option of starting hormonal contraception immediately after the first pill of the medical abortion regimen. For those who choose to have an IUD inserted, Abortion Care Guideline suggests IUD placement at the time that success of the abortion procedure is determined. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.5.4.

✓ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 126)

#### Insurance to offset end user costs

### Yes

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Social Security Code (page 60)
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311 )
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 3)

#### Induced abortion for all women

#### Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Social Security Code (page 60 )
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311 )
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 3)

#### Induced abortion for poor women only

#### No

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Social Security Code (page 60 )
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311 )
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 3)

#### Abortion complications

#### Not specified

- Social Security Code
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### Private health coverage

#### Not specified

- Social Security Code
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Where user fees are charged for abortion, this should be based on careful consideration of ability to pay, and fee waivers should be available for those who are facing financial hardship and adolescent abortion seekers. As far as possible, abortion services and supplies should be mandated for coverage under insurance plans as inability to pay is not an acceptable reason to deny or delay abortion care. Furthermore, having transparent procedures in all health-care facilities can ensure that informal charges are not imposed by staff. Abortion Care Guideline § 1.4.2.

↓ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 53)

### Who can provide abortion services

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/27-France-Decree-on-midwives-practice-of-surgical-abortions-2023.pdf#page=1
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1 )
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311 )
- Law on Modernisation of the Health System (page 44)

#### Nurse

#### Not specified

- Law on Modernisation of the Health System
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/27-France-Decree-on-midwives-practice-of-surgical-abortions-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

#### Midwife/nurse-midwife

#### Yes

Midwives may perform medical abortions in cases of abortion at the woman's request before the end of the twelfth week of pregnancy.

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/27-France-Decree-on-midwives-practice-of-surgical-abortions-2023.pdf#page=1
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1 )
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311 )
- Law on Modernisation of the Health System (page 44)

#### **Doctor (specialty not specified)**

#### Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/27-France-Decree-on-midwives-practice-of-surgical-abortions-2023.pdf#page=1
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022 (page 1 )
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 311 )
- Law on Modernisation of the Health System (page 44)

#### Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN

#### Not specified

- Law on Modernisation of the Health System
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021
- Ministerial Decree on the conditions of medical abortion provision, 2022
- Law on Reinforcing the Right to Abortion, 2022
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/27-France-Decree-on-midwives-practice-of-surgical-abortions-2023.pdf
- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

The Abortion Care Guideline recommends against regulation on who can provide and manage abortion that is inconsistent with WHO guidance. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.3.8.

↓ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 97)

Extra facility/provider requirements for delivery of abortion services	Referral linkages to a higher-level facility Not specified	
	services	<ul> <li>Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021</li> <li>https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf</li> </ul>
		Availability of a specialist doctor, including OB/GYN Not specified
		<ul> <li>Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021</li> <li>https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf</li> </ul>
		Minimum number of beds
		Not specified
		Private facilities must have beds or places authorized for gynecology/obstetrics or surgery. The Public Health Law does not stipulate a specific number of beds required.
		<ul> <li>Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021</li> <li>https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf</li> <li>Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 1594)</li> </ul>
		Other (if applicable)
		Public and private facilities must have the capacity to manage abortion complications. Public facilities must have an approved centre for family planning or education or an agreement for such a centre to undertake within their institution the activities defined in articles R2311-7 to R 2311-18. Private facilities must have an agreement with an approved family planning or education centre to undertake within their institution the activities defined in articles R2311-7 to R 2311-18. Private facilities must have an agreement with an approved family planning or education centre to undertake within their institution the activities defined in articles R2311-7 to R2311-8.
		<ul> <li>https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1</li> <li>Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 1594)</li> </ul>
		WHO Guidance
		The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.
		There is no single recommended approach to providing abortion services. The choice of specific health worker(s) (from among the recommended options) or management by the individual themself, and the location of service provision (from among recommended options) will depend on the values and preferences of the woman, girl or other pregnant person, available resources, and the national and local context. A plurality of service-delivery approaches can co-exist within any given context. Given that service-delivery approaches can be diverse, it is important to ensure that for the individual seeking care, the range of service-delivery options taken together will provide access to scientifically accurate, understandable information at all stages; access to quality-assured medicines (including those for pain management); back-up referral support if desired or needed; linkages to an appropriate choice of contraceptive services for those who

↓ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 132)

### **Conscientious Objection**

**Public sector** providers

#### **Related documents:**

https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1

want post-abortion contraception. Best Practice Statement 49 on service delivery. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.6.1.

- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312)
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 41)

#### Individual health-care providers who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider

Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312)



### ( WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

The Abortion Care Guideline recommends that access to and continuity of comprehensive abortion care be protected against barriers created by conscientious objection. It is critical that States ensure compliance with regulations and design/organize health systems to ensure access to and continuity of quality abortion care. If it proves impossible to regulate conscientious objection in a way that respects, protects and fulfils abortion seekers' rights, conscientious objection in abortion provision may become indefensible. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.3.9.

Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 98)

Private	sector
provide	rs

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312)
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 41)

#### Individual health-care providers who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider

Yes

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312)



#### **WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

The Abortion Care Guideline recommends that access to and continuity of comprehensive abortion care be protected against barriers created by conscientious objection. It is critical that States ensure compliance with regulations and design/organize health systems to ensure access to and continuity of quality abortion care. If it proves impossible to regulate conscientious objection in a way that respects, protects and fulfils abortion seekers' rights, conscientious objection in abortion provision may become indefensible. Abortion Care Guideline § 3.3.9.

↓ **Source document**: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 98)

Provider type not specified	Yes Related documents:
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Neither Type of Provider Permitted	Related documents:         • https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1         • Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312 )         • France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 41)         Individual health-care providers who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider         Yes         • https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1         • https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1         • Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 312)
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Public facilities	No Related documents:  • https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1  • Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313 )  • France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 41)
	Health-care facilities who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider         Yes         No refusal is permitted if referral is not possible.         • https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1

Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.

Where it is lawful, abortion must be accessible in practice. This requires both ensuring that health-care facilities, commodities and services are accessible (including sufficient providers), and that law and policy on abortion is formulated, interpreted and applied in a way that is compatible with human rights. Abortion Care Guideline § 1.3.1.

Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 48)



#### Additional notes

The Public Health Law states that "A private health facility may refuse to have voluntary terminations of pregnancy performed on its premises." However, this refusal may not be invoked by a facility referred to in paragraph 2 of article L. 6161-5 or by a facility having concluded an agreement of concession pursuant to article L. 6161-9 in its version prior to Law No. 2009-879 of 21 July 2009 on hospital reform and on patients, health, and territories unless other facilities are able to respond to local needs. The Public Health Law also states that specific kinds of public hospitals are not permitted to refuse performing abortions.

#### **Related documents:**

• https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1

• Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)

#### Private facilities

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 41)

#### Health-care facilities who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider

Yes

Yes

No refusal is permitted if referral is not possible.

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)

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- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)

#### Facility type not specified

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)
- France Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Guide, 2023 (page 41)

#### Health-care facilities who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider

#### Yes

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No refusal is permitted if referral is not possible.

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
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- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
- Public Health Code Last Updated, 2021 (page 313)



#### No

#### **Related documents:**

- https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/28-France-Constitutional-Amendment-2024.pdf#page=1
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#### Indicators

Country specific information related to sexual and reproductive health indications. As data for the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators related to sexual and reproductive health become available, these will be provided, through periodic updates.

#### Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)	No data
1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable	No data

1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio	
.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	No data
.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	No data
.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group	<b>8.6</b> (2015-2020)
.8.2 Number of people covered by health insurance or a public health system per 1,000 population	No data
.c.1 Health worker density and distribution	No data

4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people: (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at	
least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex	

No data

No data

### Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and nondiscrimination on the basis of sex	No data
5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age	No data
5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence	No data
5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18	No data
5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age	No data
5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care	No data
5.6.2 Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee women aged 15- 49 years access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education	No data
5.a.1 (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure	No data
5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex	No data
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	
8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	No data
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries	
10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by age, sex and persons with disabilities	No data
10.3.1 Proportion of the population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed within the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law	No data

Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	No data		
16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 1829 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18	No data		
16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms	No data		
16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months	No data		
16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)	No data		
16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services	No data		
16.7.1 Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national distributions	No data		

No data

	NO GALA
16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months	No data
16.b.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law	No data
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	
17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the Internet	No data
Additional Reproductive Health Indicators	
Percentage of married women with unmet need for family planning	<b>1.7</b> (2005)
Percentage of births attended by trained health professional	<b>97.4</b> (2016)
Percentage of women aged 20-24 who gave birth before age 18	No data
Total fertility rate	<b>1.88</b> (2018)
Legal marital age for women, with parental consent	No data
Legal marital age for women, without parental consent	<b>18</b> (2009-2017)
Gender Inequalities Index (Value)	<b>0.08</b> (2017)
Gender Inequalities Index (Rank)	<b>16</b> (2017)
Mandatory paid maternity leave	<b>yes</b> (2020)

Population, urban (%)	<b>80.444</b> (2018)
Percentage of secondary school completion rate for girls	<b>0.94</b> (2013)
Gender parity in secondary education	<b>1.009</b> (2015)
Percentage of women in non-agricultural employment	<b>49.6</b> (2013)
Proportion of seats in parliament held by women	<b>35.4</b> (2017)
Sex ratio at birth (male to female births)	<b>1.05</b> (2018)