Identified policies and legal sources related to abortion:

- 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 Practitioners
- Law on Health Care Services
- Other

Related Documents

From Constitution:
- DRC Constitution, 2011

From Criminal / Penal Code:
- Penal Code

From Health Regulation / Clinical Guidelines:
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020

From EML / Registered List:
- Essential Medicines List 2020

From Medical Ethics Code:
- Medical Ethics Rules

From Law on Health Care Services:
- Law on Public Health 2018

From Other:
- Act of Access to Maputo Protocol, 2018
- National Strategy to Fight Gender-Based Violence, 2009

List of ratified human rights treaties:
- CERD
- CPPR
- 2nd OP
- CEDAW-OP
- CAT
- CAT-OP
- CRC
- CRC-OPAC
- CRC:OPIC
- CRPD
- CRPD-OP
- CED
- Maputo Protocol

Concluding Observations:
- CEDAW
- CEDAW
- CRC
- CRC
- HRC

Persons who can be sanctioned:
- A woman or girl can be sanctioned
- Providers can be sanctioned
- A person who assists can be sanctioned

Abortion at the woman's request

- No

Legal Ground and Gestational Limit
### Economic or social reasons

**Related documents:**
- Penal Code (page 45)
- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 11)

**Gestational limit**

**Weeks:** viability

Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define safe abortion as “termination of pregnancy before the age of viability (28 weeks of amenorrhea)”.

- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 12)

#### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

WHO defines health for member states as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.1.5.

- Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)

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 Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)

#### Additional notes

Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define health as a “state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely absence of disease or infirmity”.

### Foetal impairment

**Related documents:**
- Act of Access to Maputo Protocol, 2018 (page 37)
- DRC Constitution, 2011 (page 74)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 9)

**Gestational limit**

**Weeks:** viability

Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define safe abortion as “termination of pregnancy before the age of viability (28 weeks of amenorrhea)”.

- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 12)

#### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

A woman is entitled to know the status of her pregnancy and to act on this information; health protection or social reasons can be interpreted to include distress of the pregnant woman caused by the diagnosis of fetal impairment. 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 Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)

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 Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)

### Rape

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 9)

**Gestational limit**

**Weeks:** viability

Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define safe abortion as “termination of pregnancy before the age of viability (28 weeks of amenorrhea)”.

- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 12)

#### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

The protection of women from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment requires that those who have become pregnant as the result of coerced or forced sexual acts can lawfully access safe abortion services. Prompt, safe abortion services should be provided on the basis of a woman's complaint rather than requiring forensic evidence or police examination. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.1.3.

- Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 102)

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 Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Incest</th>
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<tr>
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<td>- Act of Access to Maputo Protocol, 2018 (page 37)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 9)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gestational limit</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weeks:</strong> viability</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define safe abortion as “termination of pregnancy before the age of viability (28 weeks of amenorrhea)”</td>
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<td>- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)</td>
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<td>- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 12)</td>
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**WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

The protection of women from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment requires that those who have become pregnant as the result of coerced or forced sexual acts can lawfully access safe abortion services. Prompt, safe abortion services should be provided on the basis of a woman’s complaint rather than requiring forensic evidence or police examination. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.1.3.

*Source document:* WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 102)

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 Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intellectual or cognitive disability of the woman</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Related documents:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Penal Code (page 45)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)</td>
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<td><strong>Gestational limit</strong></td>
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<td>Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define safe abortion as “termination of pregnancy before the age of viability (28 weeks of amenorrhea)”</td>
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<td>- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)</td>
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<td>- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 12)</td>
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</table>

**WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

The scope of mental health includes psychological distress or mental suffering caused by, for example, coerced or forced sexual acts and diagnosis of severe fetal impairment. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.1.2.

*Source document:* WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 102)

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 Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)

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<table>
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<td>- Act of Access to Maputo Protocol, 2018 (page 37)</td>
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</tr>
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<td><strong>Weeks:</strong> viability</td>
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**WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

The scope of mental health includes psychological distress or mental suffering caused by, for example, coerced or forced sexual acts and diagnosis of severe fetal impairment. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.1.2.

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*Source document:* WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)

---

**Additional notes**

Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define health as a “state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely absence of disease or infirmity”.
### Physical health

**Related documents:**
- Act of Access to Maputo Protocol, 2018 (page 37)
- DRC Constitution, 2011 (page 74)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 9)

### Gestational limit

**Weeks:** viability

Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define safe abortion as “termination of pregnancy before the age of viability (28 weeks of amenorrhea)”.

- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 12)

---

### Health

**Related documents:**
- Penal Code (page 45)
- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 9)

### Gestational limit

**Weeks:** viability

Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define safe abortion as “termination of pregnancy before the age of viability (28 weeks of amenorrhea)”.

- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 12)

---

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Physical health is widely understood to include conditions that aggravate pregnancy and those aggravated by pregnancy. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.1.2.

- Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 102)

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 Safe Abortion Guidance (page 103)

### Additional notes

Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines define health as a “state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely absence of disease or infirmity”.

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Content continues...
Additional Requirements to Access Safe Abortion

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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 9)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third-party authorization should not be required for women to obtain abortion services. The requirement for authorization by hospital authorities may violate the right to privacy and women's access to health care on the basis of equality of men and women. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 105)</td>
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<table>
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<th>Authorization in specially licensed facilities only</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restrictions on the range of providers or facilities that are authorized to provide abortion reduce the availability of services and their equitable geographic distribution. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 106)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Judicial authorization for minors

- 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:**
- Medical Ethics Rules
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020

---

Judicial authorization in cases of rape

- No

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 10)

---

WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Third-party authorization should not be required for women to obtain abortion services. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.

**Source document:** WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 105)

---

Laws, policies and practices that restrict access to abortion information and services can deter women from care seeking and create a "chilling effect" (suppression of actions because of fear of reprisals or penalties) for the provision of safe, legal services. Examples of barriers include: requiring third-party authorization from one or more medical professionals or a hospital committee, court or police, parent or guardian or a woman's partner or spouse. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2

**Source document:** WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 104)

---

If the woman benefited from comprehensive care (medical care, legal assistance, psychosocial and socio-economic assistance) for survivors of sexual violence, according to the National Strategy to Fight Gender Based Violence, she must bring her folder when she seeks safe abortion care.

If she has not benefited from support and/or has not reported the rape offense to law enforcement, she must certify on her honor that she is relating truthful facts when she gives her consent to the safe abortion procedure. The provider should encourage the client to seek care for survivors of sexual violence, but this is not a condition for receiving abortion care.

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 10)
- National Strategy to Fight Gender-Based Violence, 2009 (page 1)

---

Police report required in case of rape

- No

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 10)

---

WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Laws, policies and practices that restrict access to abortion information and services can deter women from care seeking and create a "chilling effect" (suppression of actions because of fear of reprisals or penalties) for the provision of safe, legal services. Examples of barriers include: requiring third-party authorization from one or more medical professionals or a hospital committee, court or police, parent or guardian or a woman's partner or spouse. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2

**Source document:** WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 104)

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If the woman benefited from comprehensive care (medical care, legal assistance, psychosocial and socio-economic assistance) for survivors of sexual violence, according to the National Strategy to Fight Gender Based Violence, she must bring her folder when she seeks safe abortion care.

If she has not benefited from support and/or has not reported the rape offense to law enforcement, she must certify on her honor that she is relating truthful facts when she gives her consent to the safe abortion procedure. The provider should encourage the client to seek care for survivors of sexual violence, but this is not a condition for receiving abortion care.

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 10)
- National Strategy to Fight Gender-Based Violence, 2009 (page 1)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parental consent required for minors</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Related documents:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 11)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Can another adult consent in place of a parent?**

Yes

The Medical Ethics Rules state: "Called urgently to a minor or other incapacitated person, and when he cannot obtain the consent of the legal representative in good time, the physician must immediately use all his knowledge and all the means at his disposal to end the threat."

The minor must be accompanied by an adult of her choice, who must be either a parent or guardian, or any duly identified trusted adult person. The person accompanying the minor will be responsible for signing the informed consent form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 11)</td>
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</table>

**Age where consent not needed**

18

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Medical Ethics Rules</td>
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**WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Third-party authorization should not be required for women to obtain abortion services. The requirement for authorization by parents may violate the right to privacy and women's access to health care on the basis of equality of men and women. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.2.

*Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 105)*

**Additional notes**

The Medical Ethics Rules state: "Called urgently to a minor or other incapacitated person, and when he cannot obtain the consent of the legal representative in good time, the physician must immediately use all his knowledge and all the means at his disposal to end the threat."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>- Medical Ethics Rules</td>
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<th>Spousal consent</th>
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<td>Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 10)</td>
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</table>

**WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Third-party authorization should not be required for women to obtain abortion services. The requirement for authorization by a spouse may violate the right to privacy and women's access to health care on the basis of equality of men and women. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.2.

*Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 105)*

**Additional notes**

For legally married women, the consent of both spouses to abortion care is preferable, but it is in no way required to obtain safe abortion care, especially if the woman feels that obtaining the consent of her husband is a discriminatory measure and an invasion of her privacy and security.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Medical Ethics Rules</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
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<th>Ultrasound images or listen foetal heartbeat required</th>
<th>Not specified</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related documents:**

- Medical Ethics Rules
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020

**WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Regulatory, policy and programmatic barriers, one example of which is the requirement for mandatory ultrasound prior to abortion, that hinder access to and timely provision of safe abortion care should be removed. Safe Abortion Guidelines, Executive Summary, Box 7 - Recommendation.

*Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 19)*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory counselling</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>• Medical Ethics Rules&lt;br&gt;• Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</td>
<td>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 46)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory waiting period</strong></td>
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<td>• Medical Ethics Rules&lt;br&gt;• Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</td>
<td>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 107)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mandatory HIV screening test</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>• Medical Ethics Rules&lt;br&gt;• Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</td>
<td>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 88)</td>
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<td>• Medical Ethics Rules&lt;br&gt;• Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</td>
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<td><strong>Additional notes</strong></td>
<td>Companionship of the patient during the abortion and emergency care.</td>
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<td>Related documents:</td>
<td>• Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Guidelines detail what counseling should entail; however, do not specify whether it is compulsory.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other mandatory STI screening tests</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>• Medical Ethics Rules&lt;br&gt;• Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</td>
<td>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 88)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WHO Guidance</strong></td>
<td>The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States should consider eliminating waiting periods that are not medically required, and expanding services to serve all eligible women promptly. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.6.</td>
<td></td>
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### Prohibition of sex-selective abortion

**Related documents:**
- Medical Ethics Rules
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020

### Restrictions on information provided to the public

**Related documents:**
- Penal Code (page 47)

### Restrictions on methods to detect sex of the foetus

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020

### Other

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020

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### Clinical and Service-delivery Aspects of Abortion Care

#### National guidelines for induced abortion

**Yes, guidelines issued by the government**

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 1)

**WHO Guidance**

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Standards and guidelines should be developed and updated with the intent of eliminating barriers to obtaining the highest attainable standard of sexual and reproductive health. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 3.3. Standards and guidelines should cover: types of abortion service, where and by whom they can be provided; essential equipment, instruments, medications, supplies and facility capabilities; referral mechanisms; respect for women’s informed decision-making, autonomy, confidentiality and privacy. Safe Abortion Guidelines, p. 63.

**Source document:** WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 75)
## Methods allowed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure</th>
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<td>Vacuum aspiration</td>
<td>Yes (13 WEEKS)</td>
<td><a href="#">Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dilatation and evacuation</td>
<td>Yes (13-16 WEEKS)</td>
<td><a href="#">Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Combination mifepristone-misoprostol</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td><a href="#">Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Misoprostol only</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td><a href="#">Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (where provided)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dilatation and curettage</td>
<td>(13 WEEKS)</td>
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### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

**Vacuum aspiration**

Vacuum aspiration is the recommended technique of surgical abortion for pregnancies of up to 12 to 14 weeks of gestation. The procedure should not be routinely completed by dilatation and sharp curettage (D&C). Safe Abortion Guidelines, Executive Summary, Box 1- Recommendation.

**Dilatation and evacuation**

Dilatation and evacuation (D&E) and medical methods (mifepristone and misoprostol; misoprostol alone) are both recommended methods for abortion for gestations over 12 to 14 weeks. Safe Abortion Guidelines, Executive Summary, Box 3- Recommendation.

**Combination mifepristone-misoprostol**

The recommended method for medical abortion is mifepristone followed by misoprostol (regimen differs by gestational age). Safe Abortion Guidelines, Executive Summary, Box 2- Recommendation.

**Misoprostol only**

Where mifepristone is not available, the recommended method for medical abortion is misoprostol (regimen differs by gestational age). Safe Abortion Guidelines, Executive Summary, Box 2- Recommendation.

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## Country recognized approval (mifepristone / mifepristone-misoprostol)

- **Yes**

**Related documents:**

- [Essential Medicines List 2020](#)
- [Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020](#)

## Pharmacy selling or distribution

- **No**

**Related documents:**

- [Essential Medicines List 2020](#)
- [Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020](#)
### Country recognized approval (misoprostol)

Yes, for gynaecological indications

**Related documents:**
- Essential Medicines List 2020 (page 48)

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

No

Must be dispensed by a healthcare facility. Mifepristone and misoprostol are prescribed by a trained healthcare professional and can be taken at home according to the provider’s monitoring instructions. Requirement for prescription not specified.

**Related documents:**
- Essential Medicines List 2020 (page 48)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 21)

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

The combination of mifepristone and misoprostol for medical abortion is included on the WHO model list of essential medicines. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 2.2.5

**Source document:** WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 54)

### Where can abortion services be provided

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 21)

**Primary health-care centres**

Not specified

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

Not specified

**Specialized abortion care public facilities**

Not specified

**Private health-care centres or clinics**

Not specified

**NGO health-care centres or clinics**

Not specified

**Other (if applicable)**

Before 13 weeks, abortion can be performed in health centers, basic maternity care centers, medical centers, polyclinics, provincial hospitals, general referral hospitals, hospitals, and university clinics. After 13 weeks, it can be performed in hospitals, provincial hospitals, general referral hospitals, university clinics. Mifepristone and misoprostol are prescribed by a trained healthcare professional and can be taken at home according to the provider’s monitoring instructions.

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 21)

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Abortion services should be available at primary-care level, with referral systems in place for all required higher-level care. Safe Abortion Guidelines, Executive Summary, Box 6—Recommendation.

**Source document:** WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 18)

### National guidelines for post-abortion care

Yes, guidelines issued by the government

**Related documents:**
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 1)

### WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Standards and guidelines should be developed and updated with the intent of eliminating barriers to obtaining the highest attainable standard of sexual and reproductive health. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 3.3. Standards and guidelines should cover: types of abortion service, where and by whom they can be provided; essential equipment, instruments, medications, supplies and facility capabilities; referral mechanisms; respect for women’s informed decision-making, autonomy, confidentiality and privacy. Safe Abortion Guidelines, p. 63.

**Source document:** WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 75)
Where can post-abortion care services be provided

- Primary health-care centres
  - Not specified
  - Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020
- Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities
  - Not specified
  - Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020
- Specialized abortion care public facilities
  - Not specified
  - Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020
- Private health-care centres or clinics
  - Not specified
  - Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020
- NGO health-care centres or clinics
  - Not specified
  - Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020
- Other (if applicable)
  - Health Centers, Basic Maternity Centers, Medical Centers, Referral Health Centers, Polyclinics, Hospitals, General Referral Hospitals, Provincial hospitals, University clinics
  - Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 21)

WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

The facilities and skills required to manage most abortion complications are similar to those needed to care for women who have had a spontaneous abortion (miscarriage). Safe Abortion Guidelines § 2.2.6.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 57)

Contraception included in post-abortion care

- Yes

Related documents:
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 31)

WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

All women should receive contraceptive information and be offered counseling for and methods of post-abortion contraception, including emergency contraception, before leaving the health-care facility. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 2.3.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 62)

Insurance to offset end user costs

- 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:
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020

WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Financing of abortion services should take into account costs to the health system while ensuring that services are affordable and readily available to all women who need them. Safe Abortion Guidelines, Executive Summary, Box 6 - Recommendation. Abortion services should be mandated for coverage under insurance plans; women should never be denied or delayed because of the inability to pay. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 3.6.2.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 18)
Conscientious Objection

Who can provide abortion services

- Nurse
  - Yes
- Midwife/nurse-midwife
  - Yes
- Doctor (specialty not specified)
  - Yes
- Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN
  - Yes

Related documents:
- Medical Ethics Rules (page 3)
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 16)

Extra facility/provider requirements for delivery of abortion services

- Referral linkages to a higher-level facility
  - Not specified
- Availability of a specialist doctor, including OB/GYN
  - Not specified
- Minimum number of beds
  - Not specified
- Other (if applicable)

Source document: Health Worker Roles in Safe Abortion Care and Post-Abortion Contraception (page 33)

WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.

Subject to gestational age and method, abortion care can be safely provided by any properly trained health-care provider, including specialist doctors, non-specialist doctors; associate and advanced associate clinicians; midwives; and nurses. Health Worker Roles in Safe Abortion Care, p 33- Recommendation.

Source document: Health Worker Roles in Safe Abortion Care and Post-Abortion Contraception (page 33)

WHO Guidance

Abortion facilities within both the public and private sectors should be available at all levels of the health system, with appropriate referral mechanisms between facilities. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 3.3.1.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 75)

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

Yes

The Medical Ethics Rules states: "A physician who seeking to be release from his mission and withdraw from providing care is required to "to provide the information that he considers helpful to continuity of care, given the obligations of confidentiality.""

The health professional invoking conscientious objection is obliged to provide unbiased information to the client about her rights to access the service.

The health professional who raises a conscientious objection must document and refer the client to another available and accessible provider.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Related documents</th>
<th>WHO Guidance</th>
<th>Additional notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Neither Type of       | - Medical Ethics Rules (page 2)  
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Guidelines, 2020 (page 9)                      | The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion. | Conscientious objection can only concern an individual and not the health structures that are responsible for guaranteeing women access to a safe abortion. |
| Provider Permitted    |                                                                                   | The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion. |                                                                                 |
| Public facilities     | No                                                                                | The respect, protection and fulfillment of human rights require that governments ensure abortion services, that are allowable by law, are accessible in practice. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.5. |                                                                                 |
|                       | [Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 106)]                         |                                                                               |                                                                                 |
| Private facilities    | No                                                                                | The respect, protection and fulfillment of human rights require that governments ensure abortion services, that are allowable by law, are accessible in practice. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.5. |                                                                                 |
|                       | [Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 106)]                         |                                                                               |                                                                                 |
| Facility type not     | No                                                                                | The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion. |                                                                                 |
| specified             | [Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 106)]                         |                                                                               |                                                                                 |
|                       | Conscientious objection can only concern an individual and not the health structures that are responsible for guaranteeing women access to a safe abortion. |                                                                                 |
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)

1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable

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

3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel

3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods

3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group

3.8.2 Number of people covered by health insurance or a public health system per 1,000 population

3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

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

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

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

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

5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18
5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age

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

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

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

5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex

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

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

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

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

16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months

16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation

16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18

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

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

16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)

16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services

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

16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

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
### Additional Reproductive Health Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of married women with unmet need for family planning</td>
<td>27.7 (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of births attended by trained health professional</td>
<td>80.1 (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of women aged 20-24 who gave birth before age 18</td>
<td>25 (2009-2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fertility rate</td>
<td>5.919 (2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal marital age for women, with parental consent</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal marital age for women, without parental consent</td>
<td>18 (2009-2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Inequalities Index (Value)</td>
<td>0.65 (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Inequalities Index (Rank)</td>
<td>152 (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory paid maternity leave</td>
<td>yes (2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median age</td>
<td>17 (2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population, urban (%)</td>
<td>44.46 (2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of secondary school completion rate for girls</td>
<td>0.30 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender parity in secondary education</td>
<td>0.64 (2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of women in non-agricultural employment</td>
<td>25.9 (1990)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of seats in parliament held by women</td>
<td>8.2 (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex ratio at birth (male to female births)</td>
<td>1.03 (2018)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>