Country Profile: Panama

Region: Latin America

Last Updated: 7 May 2017

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 Criminal / Penal Code:
- Penal Code

From Civil Code:
- Civil Code

From Ministerial Order / Decree:
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399, Ministry of Health

From Health Regulation / Clinical Guidelines:
- Revised Standards on Women's Health
- Guidelines on Pregnancy Complications

From EML / Registered List:
- Registered Medications

From Document Relating to Funding:
- Decree on Free Pregnancy Services

Concluding Observations:
- CEDAW
- CESCR
- CRC
- CRPD

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

List of ratified human rights treaties:
- CERD
- CCPR
- ICCt OP
- 2nd OP
- CESCR
- CESCR-OP
- CAT
- CAT-OP
- CEDAW
- CEDAW-OP
- CRC
- CRC:OPSC
- CRC:OPAC
- CRC:OPIC
- CRC
- CRPD
- CRPD-OP
- CED

Abortion at the woman's request

No

Legal Ground and Gestational Limit
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic or social reasons</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Related documents:</td>
<td>- Penal Code (page 108)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO Guidance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 16)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prenatal impairment</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Related documents:</td>
<td>- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gestational limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weeks: 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 64)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rape</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Related documents:</td>
<td>- Penal Code (page 108)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gestational limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weeks: 2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Penal Code (page 109)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 64)</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Health Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Incest</strong></td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intellectual or cognitive disability of the woman</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mental health</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical health</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The following descriptions were extracted from WHO Abortion Care Guideline. Where there is a specific Recommendation, this is stated. Otherwise, these are excerpts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related documents:**
- Penal Code (page 108)
Additional Requirements to Access Safe Abortion

Authorizations of health professional(s)

Yes

Related documents:
- Penal Code (page 109)
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 3)

Number and cadre of health-care professional authorizations required

3 Doctor (Specialty Not Specified), Specialist Doctor, Including OB/GYN

At least three authorizations (in cases of life or health risk) where the certification of the attending physician must be obtained, a review by the Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the hospital must be performed, and there must be authorization by the Multidisciplinary Commission.

The Multidisciplinary Commission is composed of at least seven professionals.

Related documents:
- Penal Code (page 109)
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399 (page 3)
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)

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)
Authorization in specially licensed facilities only

Yes

Related documents:
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)

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.

Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 52)

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:
- Penal Code
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health
- Civil Code

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 52)

Judicial authorization in cases of rape

Yes

Related documents:
- Penal Code (page 109)

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 Abortion Care Guideline recommends abortion be available on the request of the woman, girl or other pregnant person. Abortion Care Guideline § 2.2.2.


Police report required in case of rape

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
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

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

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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.

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

**Required for Minors:** Yes

**Related Documents:**
- Revised Standards on Women's Health (page 59)
- Civil Code (page 10)
- https://abortion-policies.ishr.org/documents/countries/

**Can Another Adult Consent in Place of a Parent?**

**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.

A minor is defined as an adolescent under 18 years (article 34.a. Civil Code). The Integral Standards on Women sets out a specific requirement for consent by a legal representative for minors and women and girls who are “incapacitated”.

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)
- Civil Code (page 10)

### Age Where Consent Not Needed

18

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)
- Civil Code (page 10)

**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**

A minor is defined as an adolescent under 18 years. The Integral Standards on Women sets out a specific requirement for consent by a legal representative for minors and women and girls who are “incapacitated”.

### 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
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health
- Civil Code

**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)

### Ultrasound Images or Listen to Foetal Heartbeat Required

**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
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

**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)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Related documents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Compulsory counselling                    | 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.                                                                 | Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399  
Revised Standards on Women’s Health                                                                    |
| 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.                                                                 | WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 77)                                                                   |
| Compulsory waiting period                 | 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.                                                                 | Penal Code  
Revised Standards on Women’s Health                                                                    |
| 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.                                                                 | WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 79)                                                                   |
| Mandatory HIV screening test              | 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.                                                                 | Penal Code  
Revised Standards on Women’s Health                                                                    |
| 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.                                                                 | WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 59)                                                                   |
| Other mandatory STI screening tests       | 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.                                                                 | Penal Code  
Revised Standards on Women’s Health                                                                    |
| 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.                                                                 | WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 59)                                                                   |

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.
### Prohibition of sex-selective abortion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not specified</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related documents:**
- Penal Code
- Revised Standards on Women's Health

**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)*

### Restrictions on information provided to the public

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Information</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not specified</td>
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</table>

**Related documents:**
- Penal Code
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399
- Revised Standards on Women's Health

**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)*

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
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<tbody>
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**Related documents:**
- Penal Code
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399

**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-Safe-Abortion-Guidance-2012.pdf#page=103*

### Other

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, guidelines issued by the government</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Related documents:**
- Revised Standards on Women's Health (page 59 )
- Guidelines on Pregnancy Complications (page 27)

**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.

*Source document: WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 50)*
### Methods allowed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Country recognized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vacuum aspiration</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dilatation and evacuation</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combination mifepristone-misoprostol</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misoprostol only</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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.

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.

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

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.

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.
### Country recognized approval (misoprostol)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Medications (page 25)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Medications (page 372)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### WHO Guidance

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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.

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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:

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)

#### Primary health-care centres

Not specified

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

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

Yes

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)

#### Specialized abortion care public facilities

Not specified

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

#### Private health-care centres or clinics

Not specified

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

Legal abortion cases, decided by courts, will be performed in state hospitals.

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)

#### NGO health-care centres or clinics

Not specified

- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

#### 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)

### National guidelines for post-abortion care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines on Pregnancy Complications (page 27)</td>
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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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Provider</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary health-care centres</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary (district-level) health-care facilities</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized abortion care public facilities</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private health-care centres or clinics</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO health-care centres or clinics</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (if applicable)</td>
<td>Third level hospitals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Contraception included in post-abortion care**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revised Standards on Women's Health (page 59)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/">https://abortion-policies.srhr.org/documents/countries/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines on Pregnancy Complications (page 27)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**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.

---

**Contraception included in post-abortion care**

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Guidelines on Pregnancy Complications (page 27)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**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 133)

---

**Source document:** WHO Abortion Care Guideline (page 126)
### Insurance to offset end user costs

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:**
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

#### Induced abortion for all women

**Yes**
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)
- Decree on Free Pregnancy Services (page 1)

#### Induced abortion for poor women only

**No**
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)
- Panama—Decree on Free Pregnancy Services—2006.pdf

#### Abortion complications

**Yes**
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)
- Guidelines on Pregnancy Complications (page 27)

#### Private health coverage

No data found

**Other (if 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.

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:**
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)

#### Nurse

Not specified
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

#### Midwife/nurse-midwife

Not specified
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

#### Doctor (specialty not specified)

Not specified
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health

#### Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN

**Yes**
- Revised Standards on Women’s Health (page 59)

**Other (if 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.

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)
Conscientious Objection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penal Code (page 109 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399 (page 3 )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**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.

- Penal Code
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399

**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 fulfills 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)

**Additional notes**

A professional can object but, if objecting, cannot be part of the Comisión Nacional Multidisciplinaria, which authorizes legal abortions.
Provider type not specified

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Penal Code (page 109)</td>
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Neither Type of Provider Permitted

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<tr>
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</tr>
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Additional notes

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Public facilities

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<th>Related documents:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Additional notes

- Penal Code
- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399

Private facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related documents:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Therapeutic Abortion Rules, Resolution 399</td>
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</table>

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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)  

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>No data</td>
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</table>

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  

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>No data</td>
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</table>

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

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<td>No data</td>
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</table>

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

3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio  

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52 (2017)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel  

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>No data</td>
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</table>

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

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>No data</td>
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</table>

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

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>81.8 (2015-2020)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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<table>
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<td>No data</td>
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</table>

3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution  

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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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  

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>No data</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paragraph</th>
<th>Data Availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and nondiscrimination on the basis of sex</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6.3 (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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6.4 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</strong></td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries</strong></td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by age, sex and persons with disabilities</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>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</strong></td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

16.4 (2013)

Percentage of births attended by trained health professional

94.6 (2016)

Percentage of women aged 20-24 who gave birth before age 18

No data

Total fertility rate

2.461 (2018)

Legal marital age for women, with parental consent

18 (2009-2017)

Gender Inequalities Index (Value)

0.46 (2017)

Gender Inequalities Index (Rank)

109 (2017)

Mandatory paid maternity leave

yes (2020)

Median age

29.7 (2020)

Population, urban (%)

67.709 (2018)

Percentage of secondary school completion rate for girls

1.05 (2013)

Gender parity in secondary education

1.053 (2015)

Percentage of women in non-agricultural employment

45.2599983 (2018)

Proportion of seats in parliament held by women

18.3 (2017)

Sex ratio at birth (male to female births)

1.05 (2018)