Country Profile: Bangladesh

Region: South-Central Asia

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 of 1860

From Health Regulation / Clinical Guidelines:
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines, Directorate General of Family Planning

From EML / Registered List:
- List of Essential Drugs

List of ratified human rights treaties:
- CERD
- CCPR
- Xst
- 2nd OP
- CESCR
- CAT
- OP
- CEDAW
- CEDAW-OP
- CRC
- CRC:OPAC
- CRC:OPIC
- CERD
- CRPD *
- Maputo Protocol

Concluding Observations:
- CEDAW
- CEDAW

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

Download data
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal Ground and Gestational Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Economic or social reasons</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foetal impairment</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rape</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Incest</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intellectual or cognitive disability of the woman</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mental health</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related documents:**

- Penal Code, 1860 (page 67)

**WHO Guidance**

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

**Economic or social reasons**

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)

**Foetal impairment**

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)

**Rape**

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)

**Incest**

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)

**Intellectual or cognitive disability of the woman**

No

**Mental health**

No

Soft document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 102)
Physical health

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)

Health

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)

Life

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

The fulfillment of human rights requires that women can access safe abortion when it is indicated to protect their health. 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, § 4.2.1.2.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 102)

Other

Menstrual regulation is available on request for women with a last menstrual period of 10 weeks or less.

Related documents:
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 15)
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 16)
Additional Requirements to Access Safe Abortion

Authorization of health professional(s)

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, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

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 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.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 105)

Additional notes

No authorization is required in the case of menstrual regulation.

Related documents:
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 21)

Authorization in specially licensed facilities only

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, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

WHO Guidance

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

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.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 106)

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, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

WHO Guidance

The following descriptions and recommendations were extracted from WHO guidance on safe abortion.
| **Judicial authorization in cases of rape** | not applicable |
| **Source document:** | WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 105) |

**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 105)

| **Police report required in case of rape** | not applicable |
| **Source document:** | WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 104) |

**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)

| **Parental consent required for minors** | Yes |
| **Related documents:** | Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 15) |

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

**Yes**

**Related documents:**
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 15)

**Age where consent not needed**

**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.

- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines

**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)

| **Spousal consent** | Not specified |
| **Related documents:** | |

- Penal Code, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

**WHO Guidance**

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.
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, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

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)

Compulsory counselling

No

Related documents:
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 18 )
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015 (page 16)

WHO Guidance

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

Many women have made a decision to have an abortion before seeking care, and this decision should be respected without subjecting a woman to mandatory counselling. Provision of counselling to women who desire it should be voluntary, confidential, non-directive and by a trained person. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 2.1.8.1.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 46)

Compulsory waiting period

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, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

WHO Guidance

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

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.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 107)

Mandatory HIV screening test

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, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

WHO Guidance

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

Requirements for HIV and other tests that are not clinically indicated are potential service-delivery barriers. Safe Abortion Guidelines, p 88.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 88)

Other mandatory STI screening tests

- 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, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

WHO Guidance

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

Requirements for HIV and other tests that are not clinically indicated are potential service-delivery barriers. Safe Abortion Guidelines, p 88.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 88)

Prohibition of sex-selective abortion

- 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, 1860
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

WHO Guidance

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

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, p 10 - Recommendation

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

Restrictions on information provided to the public

No data found

WHO Guidance

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

States should refrain from limiting access to means of maintaining sexual and reproductive health, including censoring, withholding or intentionally misrepresenting health-related information. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.7.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 107)
Clinical and Service-delivery Aspects of Abortion Care

Methods allowed

**Vacuum aspiration**
Yes (10 COMPLETED WEEKS)

Between 6 and 12 weeks of amenorrhea

- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 31)
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015 (page 17)

**Dilatation and evacuation**
Not specified

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual

**Combination mifepristone-misoprostol**
Yes (9 WEEKS)

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 55)
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015 (page 13)

**Misoprostol only**
Yes

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 55)

**Other (where provided)**

D&C

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 60)

Additional notes
There are guidelines for the provision of menstrual regulation.
### Country recognized approval (mifepristone / mifepristone / mifepristone / mifepristone)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source document</th>
<th>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 123)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source document</th>
<th>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 123)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source document</th>
<th>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 13)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source document</th>
<th>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 14)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO Guidance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source document</th>
<th>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 54)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Chemists/pharmacists can help women avoid unintended pregnancy through provision of accurate contraceptive information, pregnancy tests, contraceptive methods and referral to safe abortion services. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 3.3.1.1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source document</th>
<th>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 13)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Additional notes

Mifepristone is not on the 2008 List of Essential Drugs but the Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines indicate that it has been registered.

**Related documents:**
- List of Essential Drugs (page 1)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not specified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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.

- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO Guidance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source document</th>
<th>WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 54)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Related documents:
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 27)

### Primary health-care centres

Yes

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 27)

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

Yes
### National guidelines for post-abortion care

- **Yes, guidelines issued by the government**

  related documents:
  - Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care (page 1)
  - Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 249)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Availability</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>
</tbody>
</table>

Related documents:
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care (page 9)
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 16)

### 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)
### Contraception included in post-abortion care

- Yes

**Related documents:**
- Technical Standards and Service Delivery Guidelines for Post Abortion Care (page 63)
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 121)
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 23)
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015 (page 28)

### WHO Guidance

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

All women should receive contraceptive information and be offered counselling 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

- No data found

### 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)

---

### Who can provide abortion services

- Nurse

**Nurse**

- Not specified

**Related documents:**
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015
Extra facility/provider requirements for delivery of abortion services

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

Doctor (specialty not specified)

Yes

“Any registered medical practitioner who has specific training on MR regulation procedures in any government recognized MR clinic in the country, or working experience in the obstetrics department of a recognized medical hospital where MR procedures is a part of routine work can perform MR. Menstrual Regulation can be carried out by these qualified and trained medical doctors and specialists till the tenth week following the last menstrual period.”

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 27 )
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 16 )

Specialist doctor, including OB/GYN

Yes

“Any registered medical practitioner who has specific training on MR regulation procedures in any government recognized MR clinic in the country, or working experience in the obstetrics department of a recognized medical hospital where MR procedures is a part of routine work can perform MR. Menstrual Regulation can be carried out by these qualified and trained medical doctors and specialists till the tenth week following the last menstrual period.”

- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 16 )

Other (if applicable)

Menstrual regulation is permitted and can be performed on an outpatient basis by a paramedic or in health care centres from primary level upwards by other trained health professionals. “A memorandum [from the Population Control and Family Planning Division] in 1980 stated that registered medical practitioners and FWVs or other paramedics with MR training can provide MR services”

“Family Welfare Visitors (FWVs) or other category of paramedical personnel (e.g. SACMO, NGO paramedics) who have undergone a formal paramedical training course of at least 18 months’ duration in any recognized institution, and thereafter obtained a specific training in MR procedure in a government recognized MR clinic, can provide such services to a client for eight weeks following the last menstrual period (LMP).”

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 27 )
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 16 )
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 16 )

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)
Conscientious Objection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public sector providers</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individual health-care providers who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual</em> (page 40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines</em> (page 17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHO Guidance**

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

Health-care professionals who claim conscientious objection must refer the woman to another willing and trained provider in the same, or another easily accessible health-care facility. Where referral is not possible, the health-care professional who objects, must provide safe abortion to save the woman’s life, to prevent serious injury to her health and provide urgent care when women present with complications from an unsafe or illegal abortion. *Safe Abortion Guidelines*, § 4.2.2.5.

**Additional notes**

“A provider cannot refuse to provide MR if the service is needed immediately to protect the life or health of the woman seeking service.”

**Related documents:**

- *Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines* (page 17)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private sector providers</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individual health-care providers who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual</em> (page 40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines</em> (page 17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHO Guidance**

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

Health-care professionals who claim conscientious objection must refer the woman to another willing and trained provider in the same, or another easily accessible health-care facility. Where referral is not possible, the health-care professional who objects, must provide safe abortion to save the woman’s life, to prevent serious injury to her health and provide urgent care when women present with complications from an unsafe or illegal abortion. *Safe Abortion Guidelines*, § 4.2.2.5.

**Additional notes**

“A provider cannot refuse to provide MR if the service is needed immediately to protect the life or health of the woman seeking service.”

**Related documents:**

- *Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines* (page 17)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider type not specified</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individual health-care providers who have objected are required to refer the woman to another provider</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual</em> (page 40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines</em> (page 17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Neither Type of Provider Permitted

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

Health-care professionals who claim conscientious objection must refer the woman to another willing and trained provider in the same, or another easily accessible health-care facility. Where referral is not possible, the health-care professional who objects, must provide safe abortion to save the woman’s life, to prevent serious injury to her health and provide urgent care when women present with complications from an unsafe or illegal abortion. Safe Abortion Guidelines, § 4.2.2.5.

Source document: WHO Safe Abortion Guidance (page 106)

Additional notes

“A provider cannot refuse to provide MR if the service is needed immediately to protect the life or health of the woman seeking service.”

Related documents:

- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 17)
- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual (page 40)
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines (page 17)

Public facilities

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:

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

WHO Guidance

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

The respect, protection and fulfilment 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)

Additional notes

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:

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015

Private facilities

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:

- Woman Centered MR and Post Abortion Care Services Reference Manual
- Bangladesh National Menstrual Regulation Services Guidelines
- Bangladesh National Service Delivery Guidelines on Menstrual Regulation with Medication (MRM), 2015
Indicators

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

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)  
No data

1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable  
No data

1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)  
No data
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio $$173$$ (2017)

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 $$83.5$$ (2015-2020)

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

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

16.6.2 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

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

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development
### 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>12 (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of births attended by trained health professional</td>
<td>49.8 (2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of women aged 20-24 who gave birth before age 18</td>
<td>40 (2009-2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fertility rate</td>
<td>2.036 (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>0.54 (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Inequalities Index (Rank)</td>
<td>134 (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory paid maternity leave</td>
<td>yes (2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median age</td>
<td>27.6 (2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population, urban (%)</td>
<td>36.632 (2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of secondary school completion rate for girls</td>
<td>0.78 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender parity in secondary education</td>
<td>1.162 (2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of women in non-agricultural employment</td>
<td>92 (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of seats in parliament held by women</td>
<td>20.3 (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex ratio at birth (male to female births)</td>
<td>1.05 (2018)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>