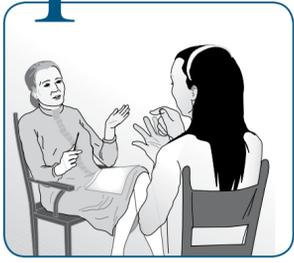


Medical Abortion Counseling A Resource for Providers

Determine eligibility

1



1. Explain indication
2. Discuss contraindications
3. Establish if precautions are needed
4. Identify any other special needs women may have that require specific counseling

Review informed consent

2



1. Respect privacy and confidentiality
2. Discuss options
3. Explain benefits
4. Explain risks

Process of medical abortion

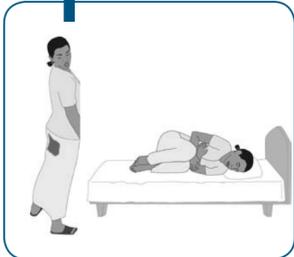
3



1. Review steps to taking the medicines (when and how)
2. Discuss taking misoprostol at home or in the clinic (if both options are available)
3. Explain what a woman will experience
4. Explain that vacuum aspiration will be necessary if the medical abortion fails
5. Assess the woman's commitment to completing the abortion once it has begun

Discuss the expected effects and side effects of medical abortion

4



1. Review what a woman should expect
2. Discuss other possible side effects after taking misoprostol
3. Discuss ways to manage side effects

Warning signs

5



1. Explain the symptoms or warning signs that require women to come back to the clinic or seek emergency care
2. Inquire about access to emergency care

Reproductive health counseling and scheduling a follow-up visit

6



1. Provide contraceptive counseling
2. Screen for other reproductive health issues and provide referral information, if needed
3. Schedule a follow-up visit for about two weeks after medical abortion

Questions and concerns

7



1. Ask if there are questions or concerns, especially about side effects
2. Discuss woman's support and surroundings during the day of taking misoprostol
3. Allow time to answer all questions

Key points to remember when counseling young women

1. Medical abortion is appropriate for adolescents seeking abortion
2. Young women and adolescents can reliably follow a medical abortion regimen