



**POUR ELLE**

BRUSSELS | 20-22 MARCH 2018

**18<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE  
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES COALITION**

# Why explore new indications for mifepristone?

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# Legal status of abortion in SSA region



- I** TO SAVE THE WOMAN'S LIFE OR PROHIBITED ALTOGETHER
- II** TO PRESERVE HEALTH
- III** SOCIOECONOMIC GROUNDS
- IV** WITHOUT RESTRICTION AS TO REASON

[www.worldsabortionlaws.com](http://www.worldsabortionlaws.com)

# RH uses of mifepristone and misoprostol


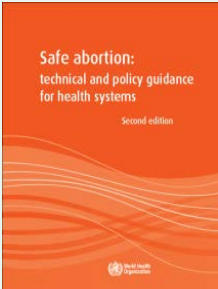
Indication	Clinical advantage to adding mife?	Registered indication (Mifeprex or Mifegyne only)	Registered indication (misoprostol)	WHO EML Listing for indication
Early pregnancy termination	✓	✓ (all mife)	✓ (w/mife)	✓(mife+miso)
Later pregnancy termination*	✓	X	X	✓(mife+miso)
Missed abortion*	✓	X	X	X
IUFD*	✓	X	X	X
Cervical ripening	✓	✓ (Mifegyne)	X	X
Labor induction	X	X	✓	✓ (miso)
Incomplete abortion	X	X	✓	✓ (miso)
PPH	X	X	✓	✓(miso)

# Missed abortion and Intra-uterine fetal death (IUFD)


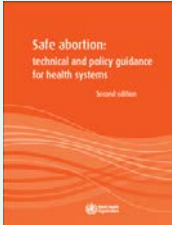
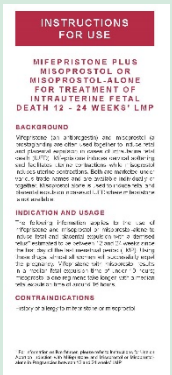
*What are we talking about?*

- A **missed abortion** is embryonic demise with no symptoms
- An **intra-uterine fetal death (IUFD)** is fetal death occurring from 14 - 28 weeks gestation, can be diagnosed symptomatically
- Both can be diagnosed with ultrasound

# Level of evidence: Miso only

	Missed abortion	IUFD
	800 mcg vaginal or 600 mcg sublingual, every 3 hrs (X2)	200 mcg vaginal, sublingual or buccal every 4 - 6 hrs
	No formal recommendation	No formal recommendation

# Level of evidence: Mife+Miso

	Missed abortion	IUFD
	No formal recommendation	No formal recommendation
	No formal recommendation	No formal recommendation
	No formal recommendation, research ongoing	200 mg mifepristone followed 12-48 hrs by 400 mcg buccal, sublingual or vaginal misoprostol every 3 hrs

# Summary of evidence


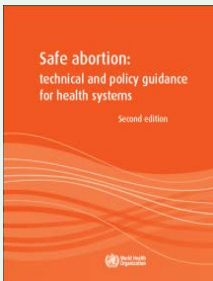
- Mifepristone increases sensitivity of the uterus to prostaglandins and ripens the cervix allowing for lower doses of misoprostol for expulsion
- Available evidence shows that while misoprostol alone works well; mife+miso is a promising treatment that may:
  - Shorten time to expulsion, reduce amount of misoprostol required, increase comfort for woman
  - New data on mife-miso combined regimens forthcoming for both indications

## Second trimester abortion

- 10-15% of all abortions occur in 2nd trimester (> 12 wks gestational age) and are permitted for medical reasons in most jurisdictions
- Can be managed medically or surgically
- Account for more than 2/3 of major abortion complications
- Wide variation in practice, policy, regulation



# Level of evidence: Second trimester abortion

	Mife-miso	Miso alone
	<p>200 mg oral mifepristone followed 36-48 h later with repeated doses of misoprostol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mifepristone + 800 mcg vaginal miso + 400 mcg vaginal/oral/sublingual misoprostol every 3 hrs</li> </ul>	<p>400 mcg oral miso + 400 mcg vaginal, buccal or sublingual miso every 3 hrs, no max dose (2017)</p>
	<p>200 mg oral mifepristone followed 36-48 h later with repeated doses of misoprostol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mifepristone + 800 mcg vaginal or 400 mcg oral miso + 400 mcg vaginal or sublingual miso every 3 hrs (2012)</li> </ul>	<p>400 mcg oral miso + 400 mcg vaginal or sublingual miso every 3 hrs up to 5 doses (2012)</p>

# Summary of evidence

- Pre-treatment with mifepristone shortens time to fetal expulsion
- May result in fewer side effects and improved quality of care by creating evidence-base to support outpatient, day-procedure care
- As second trimester services often medically indicated, the service is often legally permitted, thereby creating a pathway to formal registration of mifepristone

# Why this all matters

- Promising ways to improve care for women and legally register mifepristone; offers opportunities for advocacy, training and registration in countries w/no legal indication for elective abortion
- Having approved non-abortion indications (e.g. missed abortion and IUFD) reduces the stigma associated with stocking mifepristone (and misoprostol) and impacts where within the health system/hospital these commodities are stored (e.g. ER, FP clinic, obs/gyn, etc)
- Additional indications help normalize place of these medicines within national registries (budgets) and on country-level EMLs
- Registered indications can facilitate efforts to integrate clinical evidence-base into practice guidelines and foster efforts to train providers on appropriate use of the medicines for all indications
- Formal registration and marketing of products also helps to ensure access to high quality medications



Thank you! Any questions?

[www.gynuity.org](http://www.gynuity.org)



# MISOPROSTOL-ONLY RECOMMENDED REGIMENS 2017

<13 weeks' gestation	13–26 weeks' gestation	>26 weeks' gestation <sup>8</sup>	Postpartum use
<p><b>Pregnancy termination<sup>a,b,1</sup></b> 800µg sl every 3 hours <i>or</i> pv*/bucc every 3–12 hours (2–3 doses)</p>	<p><b>Pregnancy termination<sup>1,5,6</sup></b> 13–24 weeks: 400µg pv*/sl/bucc every 3 hours<sup>a,e</sup> 25–26 weeks: 200µg pv*/sl/bucc every 4 hours<sup>f</sup></p>	<p><b>Pregnancy termination<sup>1,5,9</sup></b> 27–28 weeks: 200µg pv*/sl/bucc every 4 hours<sup>f,9</sup> &gt;28 weeks: 100µg pv*/sl/bucc every 6 hours</p>	<p><b>Postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) prophylaxis<sup>1,2,10</sup></b> 600µg po (x1) <i>or</i> <b>PPH secondary prevention<sup>1,11</sup></b> (approx. ≥350ml blood loss) 800µg sl (x1)</p>
<p><b>Missed abortion<sup>c,2</sup></b> 800µg pv* every 3 hours (x2) <i>or</i> 600µg sl every 3 hours (x2)</p>	<p><b>Fetal death<sup>f,g,1,5,6</sup></b> 200µg pv*/sl/bucc every 4–6 hours</p>	<p><b>Fetal death<sup>2,9</sup></b> 27–28 weeks: 100µg pv*/sl/bucc every 4 hours<sup>f</sup> &gt;28 weeks: 25µg pv* every 6 hours <i>or</i> 25µg po every 2 hours<sup>h</sup></p>	<p><b>PPH treatment<sup>k,2,10</sup></b> 800µg sl (x1)</p>
<p><b>Incomplete abortion<sup>a,2,3,4</sup></b> 600µg po (x1) <i>or</i> 400µg sl (x1) <i>or</i> 400–800µg pv* (x1)</p>	<p><b>Inevitable abortion<sup>g,2,3,5,6,7</sup></b> 200µg pv*/sl/bucc every 6 hours</p>	<p><b>Induction of labor<sup>h,2,9</sup></b> 25µg pv* every 6 hours <i>or</i> 25µg po every 2 hours</p>	
<p><b>Cervical preparation for surgical abortion<sup>d</sup></b> 400µg sl 1 hour before procedure <i>or</i> pv* 3 hours before procedure</p>	<p><b>Cervical preparation for surgical abortion<sup>a</sup></b> 13–19 weeks: 400µg pv 3–4 hours before procedure &gt;19 weeks: needs to be combined with other modalities</p>		

#### References

- a WHO Clinical practice handbook for safe abortion, 2014
- b von Hertzen et al. Lancet, 2007; Sheldon et al. 2016 FIAPAC abstract
- c Gemzell-Danielsson et al. IJGO, 2007
- d Sääv et al. Human Reproduction, 2015; Kapp et al. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, 2010
- e Dabash et al. IJGO, 2015
- f Perritt et al. Contraception, 2013
- g Mark et al. IJGO, 2015
- h WHO recommendations for induction of labour, 2011
- i FIGO Guidelines: Prevention of PPH with misoprostol, 2012
- j Raghavan et al. BJOG, 2015
- k FIGO Guidelines: Treatment of PPH with misoprostol, 2012

#### Notes

- 1 If mifepristone is available (preferable), follow the regimen prescribed for mifepristone + misoprostol<sup>9</sup>
- 2 Included in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines
- 3 For incomplete/inevitable abortion women should be treated based on their uterine size rather than last menstrual period (LMP) dating
- 4 Leave to take effect over 1–2 weeks unless excessive bleeding or infection
- 5 An additional dose can be offered if the placenta has not been expelled 30 minutes after fetal expulsion
- 6 Several studies limited dosing to 5 times; most women have complete expulsion before use of 5 doses, but other studies continued beyond 5 and achieved a higher total success rate with no safety issues
- 7 Including ruptured membranes where delivery indicated
- 8 Follow local protocol if previous cesarean or transmural uterine scar
- 9 If only 200µg tablets are available, smaller doses can be made by dissolving in water (see www.misoprostol.org)
- 10 Where oxytocin is not available or storage conditions are inadequate
- 11 Option for community based programs

#### Route of Administration

- pv – vaginal administration
- sl – sublingual (under the tongue)
- po – oral
- bucc – buccal (in the cheek)

\* Avoid pv (vaginal route) if bleeding and/or signs of infection

Rectal route is not included as a recommended route because the pharmacokinetic profile is not associated with the best efficacy