



EFFICACY

OF THE MEDICATION



Misoprostol works to terminate a pregnancy in about every 8 out of 10 women.

IN CASE THE MEDICATION DID NOT WORK



Repeat the abortion by repeating the misoprostol dose or by having Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA). There is a very small risk of birth defects if pregnancy continues after taking misoprostol.



WAS MY ABORTION SUCCESSFUL?

Even if the woman feels she is not pregnant anymore, it is important to make sure the abortion was successful. Women should either do an ultrasound after the medical abortion or do a pregnancy test 3-4 weeks after the abortion.



AFTER THE ABORTION



After the abortion, a woman should expect light bleeding for 1-3 weeks afterwards, and should confirm that the abortion was successful.



Nothing should go inside the vagina for 5 days after the abortion (she should not have sex or use tampons) because the cervix remains open and there is a higher risk of infection.



A woman can get pregnant immediately after an abortion!

She should get good contraception to prevent a new unwanted pregnancy immediately.

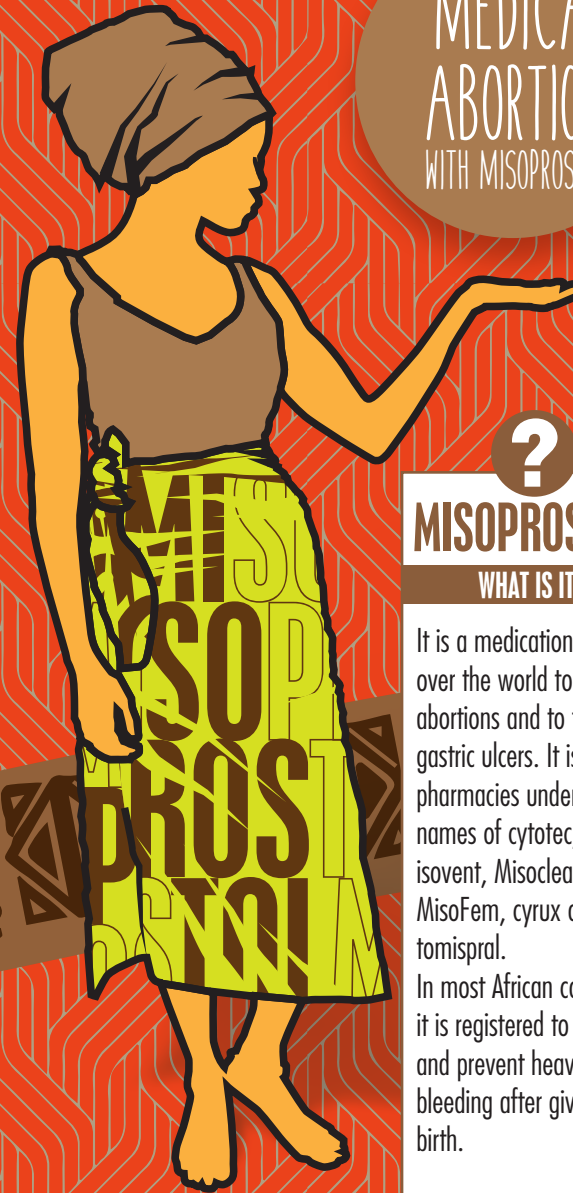


ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Women Help Women
WEB: [HTTPS://WOMENHELP.ORG/](https://womenhelp.org/)
EMAIL: [INFO@WOMENHELP.ORG](mailto:info@womenhelp.org)
TWITTER: @WOMENHELPORG
FACEBOOK: WOMENHELPWOMENINTERNATIONAL

MAMA Network
MOBILIZING ACTIVISTS around MEDICAL ABORTION (MAMA).

MEDICAL ABORTION WITH MISOPROSTOL



MISOPROSTOL,

WHAT IS IT?

It is a medication used all over the world to induce abortions and to treat gastric ulcers. It is sold in pharmacies under the names of cyotec, isovent, Misoclear, MisoFem, cyrus or tomispral.

In most African countries it is registered to treat and prevent heavy bleeding after giving birth.





MISOPROSTOL,

WHAT CAN IT BE USED FOR?

Safely inducing abortion
 Post miscarriage and post abortion care (to complete an incomplete abortion)
 Preventing and treating post-partum hemorrhaging (heavy bleeding after giving birth)
 Use it for gastric ulcer

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Misoprostol makes the uterus contract and softens and opens the cervix.

WHEN CAN IT BE USED FOR SAFE ABORTION?



In the first 9 weeks of pregnancy counting from the first day of the last menstrual cycle.



After 9 weeks it is advised to use it under medical supervision.



HOW IS IT ADMINISTERED TO INDUCE AN ABORTION?



A woman needs 12 pills in total to be taken in 3 doses of 4 pills every 3 hours:



Place **4 misoprostol** pills under the tongue



for 30 minutes

Do not swallow, let it dissolve



After 3 hours place another **4 pills** under the tongue



for 30 minutes

Do not swallow, let it dissolve



After 3 hours place another **4 pills** under the tongue



for 30 minutes

Do not swallow, let it dissolve



WHAT CAN BE EXPECTED AFTER USING THE MEDICATION?



Stronger cramps and vaginal bleeding stronger than happens during the menstruation



In 80% of cases, **the expulsion of the pregnancy** happens during the first 24 hours.



The longer the woman has been pregnant, the stronger the bleeding and cramps will be.



She can use **ibuprofen or panadol** to relieve the pain.



POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS



Within the first 24 hours the following symptoms may occur: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fever with or without chills, headache and / or dizziness.



WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS (COMPLICATIONS)?



Excessive bleeding (2 or 3 pads filled per hour for more than 2 or 3 hours in a row)



High Fever of more than 39 Celsius or 38 Celsius for more than 24 hours



Strong pain that does not go away few days after taking the medicines



Smelly, abnormal vaginal discharge

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF COMPLICATIONS?



Go immediately to a health center.

In case of a medical emergency, **medical personnel have the obligation to attend to the person in a timely manner.** The treatment for complications is the same as for complications after a miscarriage. **It is not possible to see the difference between a miscarriage and an induced abortion with misoprostol.** A woman in need of medical care **can say she has had a miscarriage.**