## Early Abortion Options

|  | <b>Abortion Pills:</b><br>Mifepristone and<br>Misoprostol   | <b>Abortion Procedure</b>  |
|--|---|--|
| How far along in the pregnancy can I be? | Up to 11 weeks from the first day of your<br>last period.   | Up to 12 weeks from the first day of your last period.   |
| What will happen?                        | <ul> <li>The abortion happens at home.</li> <li>You take the first abortion pill (mifepristone) at a time that works best for you.</li> <li>You will likely feel fine after taking the first pill. You may have some nausea.</li> <li>Later you insert four misoprostol pills.</li> <li>The cramping and bleeding starts a few hours after you insert the misoprostol. You will have heavy bleeding and cramps.</li> <li>You do not need a routine follow-up visit.</li> <li>You can have a phone call or in-person visit with your clinician 1-2 weeks later.</li> </ul> | The abortion happens in the office.<br>The actual abortion procedure takes 5 to 10<br>minutes.<br>Your clinician puts instruments in your<br>vagina and uterus to remove the pregnancy.<br>You do not need a routine follow-up visit.<br>You can have a phone call or in-person visit<br>with your regular clinician or at the office<br>where you had the abortion 1-2 weeks later. |
| How painful is it?                       | You may have mild to very strong cramps off and on during the abortion. Pain pills help.  | You may have mild to very strong cramps<br>during the abortion. Pain pills help.   |
| How much will<br>I bleed?                | Expect heavy bleeding with clots during the abortion. After that, lighter bleeding may continue off and on for a few weeks.   | You may have light bleeding for 1-7 days.<br>Bleeding may continue off and on for a few<br>weeks.  |
| How much does<br>it cost?                | For both types of abortion, the exact cost depends on where you go.   |  |
| Can the abortion fail?                   | The pills work 98-99% of the time. If the pills fail, you may try the pills again or have an abortion procedure.  | It works 99% of the time. If it fails, you must have a repeat abortion procedure.  |
| Can I still have<br>children afterwards? | <b>Yes.</b> Neither type of abortion lowers your chances of getting pregnant or staying pregnant in the future.   |  |

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| Is it safe?    | Both pills are safe. Big problems are rare.  | The suction abortion procedure is safe.<br>Abortion in the first 12 weeks leads to very<br>few problems. |
| Things to Know | It takes 1-2 days to complete the abortion.  | It is over in a few minutes.   |
|                | Bleeding can be very heavy and may<br>last longer than with a suction abortion<br>procedure. | You see less bleeding than you would with an abortion with pills.  |
|                | You won't have shots, anesthesia, or<br>instruments in your body.                            | A clinician must insert instruments inside the uterus.   |
|                | Being at home instead of in an office may feel more private.                                 | You have less control over the abortion procedure.   |
|                | You can choose to have someone with you,<br>or you can be alone.                             | You may not be able to choose who is with<br>you.  |
|                | It cannot be done as late in pregnancy as an abortion procedure.                             | It can be done later in the pregnancy than an abortion with pills.                                       |
|                | Cramps can be severe and may last longer than with an abortion procedure.                    | Anesthetics and pain medicine may cause side effects.  |
|                | It may feel more natural, like a miscarriage.  | The suction device may be noisy.   |
|                | It cannot end a tubal or ectopic pregnancy.  | It cannot end a tubal or ectopic pregnancy.  |

Resources to Find Abortion Care: <u>www.abortionfinder.org, www.ineedana.com</u>