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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOS: \_\_\_\_\_

## Consent for Medication Abortion Abortion with Mifepristone and Misoprostol

### How does medication abortion work?

“Abortion pill” is a popular name for a medicine called mifepristone (Mifeprex® is the brand name). It is the first pill you will take to end your pregnancy. Pregnancy needs a hormone called progesterone to grow normally. Mifepristone blocks the body’s own progesterone, which starts the abortion process.

**24-48 hours after you take the abortion pill, you will take a second medication called misoprostol.** It opens the cervix and makes the uterus contract. This empties the uterus and completes the process. The whole process is called medication abortion.

### What are the benefits of medication abortion?

Using the abortion pill together with misoprostol is safe and effective. It avoids an in-clinic procedure to have an abortion. The process is completed at home, which can be more comfortable for some people.

### How well does medication abortion work?

The success rate for medication abortion is 97-99%.

### What will I experience during a medication abortion?

Most symptoms occur after taking the second medication, misoprostol.

- **Cramping** – It will be most severe after you take the misoprostol. The worst cramps last up to four hours. Milder cramps may last a day or two after that.
- **Bleeding** – It will be heaviest soon after taking the misoprostol. You may bleed or spot for 4 to 6 weeks after the abortion.
- **Fever** – Having a temperature of 99-100°F is common after taking misoprostol. It should only last a short time.
- **Other** – It is common to have diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, chills, headache, dizziness, back pain, and tiredness after taking misoprostol. These symptoms should resolve within 24 hours.

Continue on NEXT page

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

DOS: \_\_\_\_\_

### **What feelings do people have after abortion?**

Having a wide range of feelings is normal. Most people feel relieved and do not regret their decision. Others may feel sad, guilty, or regret after an abortion, just as they may after having a baby. If your mood keeps you from doing the things you usually do each day, call us. We can help or refer you to someone who can.

### **Besides abortion, what other choices do I have?**

If you are pregnant, you have three options to think about: abortion, adoption, and parenting. We can talk about any of these options with you, and help you with whatever you decide to do.

### **What are the risks of medication abortion?**

Using the abortion pill together with misoprostol is very safe. However, *any* medical procedure carries risk.

#### **Risks linked with the abortion pill are:**

- **The pregnancy doesn't end** – Sometimes the medications do not end the pregnancy. These medications may cause serious birth defects. You may need to take additional medications or have a suction abortion in the clinic if the pregnancy continues.
- **Incomplete abortion** – This means some of the pregnancy tissue may be left inside the uterus. This may lead to heavy bleeding, infection, or both. If this happens, you may need a suction abortion in a clinic or a hospital. Other tests or treatments may be needed.
- **Blood clots in the uterus** – Clots may cause cramping and abdominal pain. You may need a suction procedure or other medications if that happens.
- **Bleeding too much or too long** – This may require treatment with medication, a suction procedure, or a blood transfusion.
- **There is up to a 5% chance of needing a suction procedure to treat failed or incomplete abortion or excessive bleeding.**
- **Infection of the uterus** – Most infections can be found and treated with medication. There is a small chance that you may need a suction procedure. You may have to go to the hospital or even have surgery to treat the infection.
- **Allergic reaction** – Some people are allergic to the medications that are used.
- **Death** – Death from medication abortion is very rare. The risk of death from a full-term pregnancy and childbirth is much greater.

### **What are the warning signs of a problem?**

#### **CALL WE Health Clinic if you have:**

- **Heavy bleeding** – Call WHC right away if you soak through two (2) thick, full-size sanitary pads every hour for two (2) hours in a row, or call us if you think your bleeding is too heavy.
- **No or very light bleeding and severe abdominal pain** with dizziness, shoulder pain or shortness of breath can be a sign of an ectopic pregnancy (pregnancy that grows outside the uterus). Call WHC if this happens.
- **Fever** – Call WHC if you have a fever of 100.4°F lasting more than four hours after taking misoprostol, or fever occurs more than 24 hours after taking misoprostol. This can be a sign of serious infection.

Continue on NEXT page

Name: _____
DOB: _____
DOS: _____

- **Other symptoms lasting longer than 24 hours after misoprostol.** This includes severe abdominal pain, feeling sick, being weak, having nausea or diarrhea, or throwing up. These symptoms are common but should not last longer than 24 hours after you take the second medication. Call WHC right away if they do. These symptoms may be a sign of a serious infection or another problem.

**What else do I need to know?**

We will give you instructions on how to take care of yourself during the abortion. To confirm the abortion is complete, we will follow up with you by phone the week after the abortion and you will do a home pregnancy test 4 weeks after the abortion.

Abortion is very safe and effective; however, no guarantee can be made about the outcome of your abortion. In the unlikely event that you need emergency medical care that cannot be provided at WHC, you will be responsible for paying for it. This is the case even if WHC sends you to another doctor or hospital because of a problem.

**Emergency Contact**

In the event of an emergency we need a person to contact who can be reached by phone today. Please list your emergency contact below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to patient: \_\_\_\_\_ Aware of abortion procedure: \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

Cell phone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Is this person here with you today? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO If no, who is here? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please read the following statements:**

- I am aware of the Notice of Privacy Practices as required by the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) and have been provided an opportunity to review it.
- I am aware that WHC, in compliance with the Tennessee Warning, will report to Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) if I test positive for a sexually transmitted infection or other communicable disease and that I may be contacted by MDH.
- I understand that staff of WHC are mandated reporters. The exceptions to my full confidentiality are if I threaten to harm myself or someone else, if there is abuse of a child or vulnerable adult, or court ordered subpoenas.
- I agree to a phone follow-up with WE Health Clinic staff approximately one week after misoprostol as well as a home pregnancy test four weeks after taking misoprostol to confirm that the abortion is complete.

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**\*\*DO NOT SIGN BELOW UNTIL YOU HAVE DISCUSSED THIS FORM WITH A STAFF MEMBER \*\***

**I have read this form, understand its contents, and have had an opportunity to have all questions answered.**

**I voluntarily choose to proceed with the medication abortion at WE Health Clinic.**

Signature of Patient: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify that the patient received this information. The patient has read this form, understands its contents, and has had an opportunity to have all questions answered.**

Staff Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_