

# Early Abortion Options

	<b>Abortion Pill/ Medication Abortion</b> (With Mifepristone and Misoprostol)	<b>Aspiration Abortion</b> (Suction or Vacuum Aspiration)
<b>How far along in the pregnancy can I be?</b>	Up to 9 weeks from the first day of your last period.	Up to 12 weeks from the first day of your last period.
<b>What will happen?</b>	<p>The abortion takes place at home.</p> <p><i>In the office</i>, you swallow the abortion pill (mifepristone). Most women feel fine after taking mifepristone. Some women have nausea.</p> <p><i>At home</i>, 6-72 hours later, you insert the misoprostol pills.</p> <p>The abortion starts 1-4 hours after you take the misoprostol. You have heavy bleeding and cramps for a couple of hours.</p> <p>You return to the office about 1 week later.</p>	<p>The abortion takes place in the office.</p> <p>The actual abortion procedure takes 5 to 10 minutes.</p> <p>The doctor puts instruments in your vagina and uterus to remove the pregnancy.</p> <p>You return to your regular doctor or to the office where you had the abortion 1-2 weeks later.</p>
<b>How painful is it?</b>	Women have mild to very strong cramps off and on during the abortion. Pain pills help.	Women have mild to very strong cramps during the abortion. Pain pills help.
<b>How much will I bleed?</b>	Heavy bleeding with clots is common during the abortion. After that, lighter bleeding may continue off and on for 1-2 weeks or more.	Most women have light bleeding for 1-7 days. Bleeding may continue off and on for a few weeks.
<b>How much does it cost?</b>	For both types of abortion, the exact cost depends on where you go.	
<b>Can the abortion fail?</b>	The pills work 98-99% of the time. If the pills fail, you must have an aspiration abortion.	It works 99% of the time. If it fails, you must have a repeat aspiration.
<b>Can I still have children afterwards?</b>	YES. Neither type of abortion lowers your chances of getting pregnant or staying pregnant in the future.	

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<b>Is it safe?</b>	Both pills have been used safely for over 10 years. Big problems are rare. Medication abortion is at least 10 times safer than continuing a pregnancy.	Aspiration abortion has been done safely for over 25 years. Abortion in the first 12 weeks leads to very few problems. Abortion is at least 10 times safer than continuing a pregnancy.
<b>What are the advantages?</b>	<p>You won't have shots, anesthesia, or instruments in your body</p> <p>It may feel more natural, like a miscarriage.</p> <p>It can be done earlier in the pregnancy than an aspiration abortion.</p> <p>Being at home instead of in an office may be more private.</p> <p>You can choose to have someone with you, or you can be alone.</p>	<p>It is over in a few minutes.</p> <p>It works 99% of the time.</p> <p>You see less bleeding than you would with a medication abortion.</p> <p>Medical staff members are with you during the abortion.</p> <p>A counselor may be there for support.</p> <p>It can be done later in the pregnancy than with a medication abortion.</p>
<b>What are the disadvantages?</b>	<p>It takes 1-2 days to complete the abortion.</p> <p>It is not the same for all women.</p> <p>Bleeding can be very heavy and may last longer than with an aspiration abortion.</p> <p>Cramps can be severe and last longer than with an aspiration abortion.</p> <p>It cannot be done as late in pregnancy as an aspiration abortion.</p> <p>It cannot end a tubal pregnancy.</p>	<p>A doctor must insert instruments inside the uterus.</p> <p>Anesthetics &amp; pain medicines may cause side effects.</p> <p>You have less control over the abortion procedure and who is with you.</p> <p>The vacuum aspirator may seem noisy.</p> <p>It cannot be done as early in pregnancy as a medication abortion.</p> <p>It cannot end a tubal pregnancy.</p>