

Terminology	Description
Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP)	This is the term used for induced abortion performed by surgical or medical method, for conditions specified under the MTP Act.
MTP Act	It was passed in the Parliament in 1971 and was implemented in 1972. The act specifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualification of the medical practitioner who can terminate the pregnancy.</li> <li>• Reasons for which termination of pregnancy can be carried out.</li> <li>• Place where termination can be carried out.</li> <li>• Duration of pregnancy till when its termination is legal.</li> </ul>
PC& PNDT (Pre Conception & Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques) Act	Pre-birth determination of sex is banned in India under this Act.
Gestation Age/Period	This is the duration of pregnancy and is calculated from the first day of last menstrual period (LMP). It is usually mentioned in weeks. In India MTP can be done till 20 weeks of pregnancy.
First-Trimester MTP	The gestation of 20 weeks usually is divided in to two trimesters because of different medical support system required with the maturity of pregnancy. Termination of pregnancy till 12 weeks of gestation age is called <b>First-Trimester MTP</b> .
Second-Trimester MTP	Termination of pregnancy of 12-20 weeks of gestation age. Opinion of two doctors is essential or required to carry out the termination of <b>second-trimester pregnancies</b> .
LMP	Stands for Last Menstrual Period – This is significant because duration of pregnancy is calculated from the first day of last menstrual period.
Products of Conception (POC)	This is the pregnancy tissue mass. This is evacuated out during the process of abortion. By inspection of this tissue, we can come to know the approximate duration of pregnancy.
Fetus	Human development stage inside the uterus beginning from eighth week after conception (following fertilization) and ending at the birth.
Methods of MTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Surgical</b> - Where pregnancy is terminated by use of surgical instruments with vacuum aspiration or mechanical evacuation.</li> <li>• <b>Medical</b> - Where drugs are used for termination of pregnancy</li> </ul>
Surgical Methods of Abortion	<p>Dilatation and Curettage (D&amp;C) - Dilatation means widening of the cervical canal (opening to the uterus) and curettage means scraping of the uterine wall. It is a process in which cervix is dilated first with a set of instruments called dilators, and then the pregnancy is terminated by scraping the products of conception off the uterine wall with a sharp instrument called a curette. Dilatation of cervix is required to allow the entry of the bulky curette into the uterus. It is a very painful and time-consuming process and likelihood of post abortion complications are much higher than with vacuum aspiration or medical methods of abortion. D&amp;C is an obsolete method of surgical abortion and should be replaced by vacuum aspiration and/ or medical methods of abortion (WHO, 2012).</p> <p><b>Vacuum Aspiration</b> - In this method the pregnancy is terminated by evacuation of the products of conception by a vacuum or negative pressure source. The source could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ELECTRIC</b>, where the vacuum is produced by suction machine and the method of evacuation is called electric vacuum aspiration (EVA) or suction evacuation (SE)</li> <li>• <b>MANUAL</b>, where the vacuum is produced in a hand held syringe and the process of evacuation is called manual vacuum aspiration (MVA).</li> </ul> <p>D&amp;E (Dilation and Evacuation) - This is a generic term used for the process of termination of pregnancy where the cervix is dilated by metal/plastic dilators or drugs and then evacuation carried out either by vacuum source or surgical instruments.</p>

# GLOSSARY CONTINUED

Terminology	Description
Medical Methods of Abortion (MMA)	<p>It is a method of termination of pregnancy by drugs. The two drugs approved for use in India are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mifepristone (RU 486)</li><li>• Misoprostol</li></ul> <p>In India, use of drugs (Mifepristone and Misoprostol) for termination of pregnancy is approved upto nine weeks.</p> <p><b>Mifepristone (RU 486)</b> - Progesterone is a hormone required for the growth of the foetus. This drug has anti – progesterone action so it stops the growth of the fetus. The process of medical abortion is started with this drug.</p> <p><b>Misoprostol</b> - This drug is used to induce softening of the cervix so that it is dilated easily. It also produces uterine contractions. Due to cervical softening and contraction of the uterine muscles, it helps to expel the contents from the uterus.</p>
Emergency Contraception	<p>Emergency contraception, or post-coital contraception, refers to methods of contraception that can be used to prevent pregnancy in the first few days after intercourse. It is intended for emergency use following unprotected intercourse, contraceptive failure or misuse (such as forgotten pills or torn condoms), rape or coerced sex.</p>
Methods of Emergency Contraception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency Contraception Pills (ECPs) - In line with the WHO recommendation, Drug Controller General of India, has approved levonorgestrel for use as ECP. Government of India's approved guideline recommends taking ECP within seven hours of unprotected intercourse. This product is available over-the-counter and does not require the prescription of a registered medical practitioner.</li><li>• Copper-bearing intrauterine devices (IUCDs) - An IUCD may also be used as an emergency contraceptive, if inserted within five days of unprotected intercourse. This may be an ideal emergency contraceptive for a woman who is hoping for an ongoing, highly effective contraceptive method.</li></ul>
Difference between ECP and MMA	<p>ECP is a method to prevent pregnancy after unprotected intercourse by preventing ovulation or implantation. It is an over-the-counter drug that may be used within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse to prevent pregnancy. MMA on the other hand is a combination of drugs used to terminate a pregnancy on prescription by a registered medical practitioner.</p>
Safe Abortion	<p>Termination of pregnancy by a skilled person at a place having all the required medical equipment and that is recognized by government to carry out abortions.</p>
Incomplete Abortion	<p>If abortion procedure could not extract the whole portion/substances of fetus or product of conception then that condition is termed as an incomplete abortion.</p>
Induced Abortion	<p>When the woman gets the pregnancy terminated voluntarily from a service provider.</p>
Missed Abortion	<p>This is a state of pregnancy where foetus stops growing and becomes non-viable. It is then necessary to terminate such pregnancy.</p>
Spontaneous Abortion	<p>When the process of abortion starts on its own without any outside intervention.</p>
Septic Abortion	<p>If any of the above types of abortion is associated with infection, it is called septic abortion.</p>
Menstrual Regulation	<p>This is a procedure done to restore or regulate the menstrual cycle of the woman who has missed her periods due to any reason (pregnancy or otherwise). It is done in first 15 days of missing the period and was prevalent in 1970s when the sensitive urine tests for early detection of pregnancy were not available. It was done with the help of MR syringe, which is a manual source of vacuum for the extraction of uterine contents.</p>
Unsafe Abortion	<p>Termination of a pregnancy carried out by someone without the skills or training to perform the procedure safely, or that takes place in an environment that does not meet minimal medical standards, or both.</p>