

IMPROVING ACCESS TO SAFE MEDICAL ABORTIONS

WHY EXPANDING THE PROVIDER BASE IS ESSENTIAL



RECOMMENDS

Task sharing of medical abortions in first trimester with trained ayurveda, unani, homeopathy doctors and registered nurses (2015)

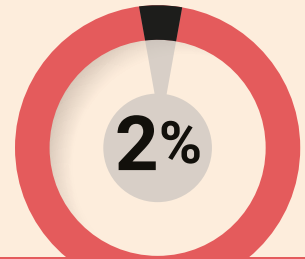
Source: World Health Organisation (WHO), Health worker roles in providing safe abortion care and post-abortion contraception, 2015



POTENTIAL PROVIDERS

India has over 42.3 lakh providers who meet WHO requirements for abortion care givers – 35,000 gynaecologists, 9,00,000+ physicians, 6.5 lakh+ AYUSH doctors and over 25 lakh+ registered nurses and ANMs

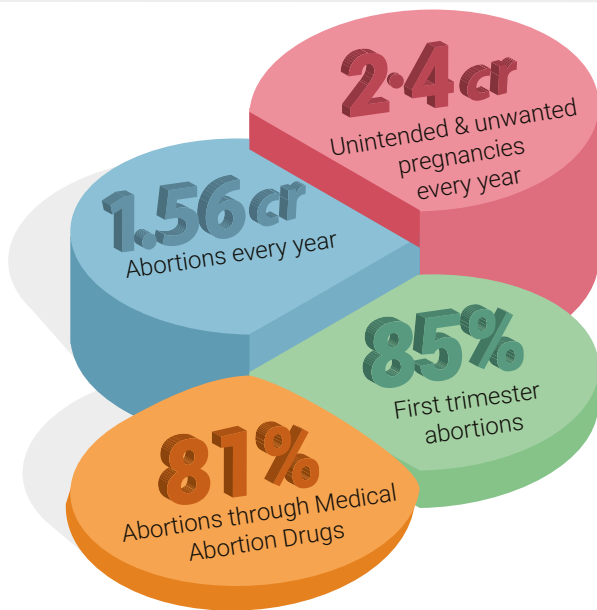
Source: Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India (FOGSI), Health worker roles in providing safe abortion care and post-abortion contraception: Background Note. Ipas Development Foundation, February 2017



CURRENT PROVIDERS

The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 allows only obstetricians/ gynaecologists and physicians trained in surgical abortions to prescribe medical abortion drugs. Currently there are only 65,000 abortion providers in India.

ABORTIONS IN INDIA



Source: Incidence of abortion and unintended pregnancy in India, Guttmacher Institute, IIPS and Population Council 2015. Unintended pregnancy and abortion in India : Country profile report , Population Council 2014.

COUNTRIES THAT ALLOW NON-PHYSICIANS TO PROVIDE ABORTION SERVICES



MANAGEMENT OF MEDICAL ABORTION AND POST-ABORTION CARE IN THE FIRST TRIMESTER (as recommended by WHO)

Tasks	Specialist doctors ¹	Non- specialist doctors ²	Auxiliary nurses/ ANMs	Nurses	Doctors of complementary systems of medicine ³
Medical abortion with mifepristone + misoprostol	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vacuum aspiration for induced abortion	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Medical management of incomplete abortion with misoprostol	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vacuum aspiration for management of incomplete abortion	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

In Indian context, ¹Obstetricians/gynaecologists ²MBBS doctors ³AYUSH doctors

✓ Recommended ✓ Recommended in specific circumstances

Source: World Health Organisation (WHO), Health worker roles in providing safe abortion care and post-abortion contraception, 2015

MEDICAL ABORTION IS AN EASIER AND SAFER METHOD FOR ABORTIONS IN FIRST TRIMESTER

MAKE MEDICAL ABORTIONS ACCESSIBLE

EXPAND PROVIDER BASE FOR MEDICAL ABORTIONS

AMEND MTP ACT

PRATIGYA Campaign for Gender Equality and Safe Abortion
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