

## Information on abortion with medication

Medication abortion can be performed up to the 7th week of pregnancy. The abortion is performed on an outpatient basis. During the preliminary examination we need to determine that the pregnancy has lasted less than 49 days. After that, the patient takes one tablet of Mifegyne 600 mg or 3 tablets of Mifegyne 200 mg (Mifepristone or RU 486) in order to break the connection between the placenta and the uterus. In 5% of women, expulsions occur already in the following two days. However, since we cannot entirely determine whether the abortion process has already occurred, the patient needs to insert 2 tablets of Cytotec vaginally in any case. Cytotec is a drug that causes the uterus to contract and the cervix to dilate, resulting in the definite expulsion.

This process can be very painful, which is why we advise to take a painkiller such as mefenamic acid beforehand. In cases of very severe pain, we will administer Tramadol tablets.

The Mifegyne tablet will be taken in presence of a doctor. The Cytotec tablets, which lead to the definite abortion, are taken at home. We strongly recommend company and support by a trusted person on the day the patient takes the Cytotec tablets.

### Complications:

- Bleeding is normal after abortion and can last up to 2 weeks.
- Perforation of the uterus is very rare. It is more likely to happen with patients not lying still.
- Infections are very rare and are treated with antibiotics.
- Residual material in the uterus occurs in about one percent of all cases, in which case another post-curettage must be performed.

**Cost:** Including the preliminary examination, the medication abortion costs between CHF 600 and 900. The costs are covered by the health insurance. Please take your health insurance card with you, so we can send them the billing directly.

**Blood group:** Please take your blood group card with you. If you are Rhesus negative, we will have to inject you with Rhesus antibodies in case of an operation.

**Medical secrecy:** We are not obliged to inform anyone about this procedure, especially not your partner or parents, unless you explicitly release us from the medical secrecy obligation towards these persons.

*Dr. med. Benjamin Stutz*