

HB1360 Abortion Inducing Drugs

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I am a vascular access board certified registered nurse.

HB1360 outlines the numerous risks of abortion inducing drugs, and how they could be mitigated by these safeguards:

- A pre-abortion appointment to identify viability, RH factor, comorbidities, and abuse.
- Ultrasound: knowing gestational age is imperative as it correlates with risk.
- Informed Consent: women require and deserve facts on their abortion and alternatives.
- Statistics are crucial for one of the most common medical procedures performed on women. Would men accept a chemical intervention without any data on the outcomes?

It is unsafe for chemical abortions to be done without all these provisions.

Chemical abortions have four times the complications as surgical ones. Why? Well, when needles, suction and forceps are used, the baby can try to wriggle away but will ultimately meet her demise because the doctor will ensure it - most of the time.

But at home, even though the chemicals are powerful, so is the life of that child. He may be starved, but he fights to survive - clinging to his mother's womb. At home, it's harder to kill a baby.

A 10-week-old fetus is well developed. His internal organs are all in place, he has bones, a four chambered heart, tooth buds and he is starting to produce testosterone! The placenta that supplies all the food and oxygen to the baby is firmly adhered to that uterine wall.

Sometimes the chemicals fail completely, sometimes partially - and that's when it can be fatal for mother as well.

I took care of a woman who took chemical abortion pills at 8 weeks gestation. She thought all had gone as expected but not all of her baby had been expelled.

A week later she became extremely ill, septic, which means the infection from her uterus spread to her bloodstream and she could have died. Fortunately, she did get herself to the hospital, had a D&C and was on IV antibiotics for weeks. Will girls getting these pills by mail with no appointment, no education or informed consent and with no one with them - will they know what to do?

You don't want the disastrous consequences of chemical abortions on the conscience of Maryland. I urge you to support HB1360.