

## Search abortion on the home pages below

[1800MyOptions](#)

[Better Health Channel](#)

[Family Planning Victoria](#)

[Marie Stopes Australia](#) [Tele-abortion](#)

[Royal Women's Hospital](#)

[Fertility Control Clinic](#)

[Health Direct](#)

## Health care and support

[1800 My Options Vic Services Map](#) 1800 696 784

### [Clinic 35 Sexual and Reproductive Health](#)

Gateway Health Wangaratta 03 5723 2000

Gateway Health Myrtleford 03 5731 3500

Gateway Health Wodonga 02 602 8888

[Meryula Clinic Benalla](#) 03 5761 4500

[Meryula Clinic Shepparton](#) 1800 222 582 - press 4 for Community Health

[Melbourne Fertility Control Clinic](#) 03 9419 2922

[Tallangatta Health Medical Centre](#) 02 6071 5270

Nurse on Call 1300 60 60 24



We acknowledge the support of the Victorian Government and regional women who generously shared their experiences through *Storylines: Her Voice Matters*

This work by [Women's Health Goulburn North East](#)

is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#)



# About abortion



## A straightforward guide to abortion

## What is abortion?

A safe procedure that empties the contents of the uterus to end a pregnancy

Abortion is also called termination of pregnancy

There are 2 methods - surgical abortion and medical abortion

Abortion is legal in Victoria and available in clinics and hospitals

## Unplanned pregnancy choices

Confirming pregnancy early gives you time to consider your choices

Check with a doctor or nurse if your period is one or more weeks late

Care and support is available to talk through your choices

Always ask counselling services about their views regarding abortion

YOU HAVE the RIGHT to make decisions without pressure or judgement

You don't need a referral for an abortion

## Surgical abortion

A procedure using gentle suction to remove the contents of the uterus

Generally available from 7 -12 weeks after a pregnancy is confirmed

Usually a day procedure with light general anaesthetic

Performed by a registered medical practitioner

## Medical abortion

Medication available up to 9 weeks to end a pregnancy

You'll see a doctor and have an ultrasound to confirm the pregnancy

Also available via Telehealth (over the phone) from some providers

Two tablets taken: the first before you leave the clinic, the second at home 24- 48 hours later

A miscarriage will occur 1-24 hours after all medication is taken

## Costs

Costs of abortion services in Victoria vary depending on

- the type of health service and fees charged
- abortion procedure
- how many weeks pregnant you are;
- whether you have Medicare and Health Care cards, or
- level of private health insurance

## Staying well before and after an abortion

Confirm you are pregnant with a doctor, nurse or health worker as early as possible

Talk with a trusted doctor, nurse or counselling service about pregnancy options and choices after checking their opinion about abortion

Give yourself time to think about your options and make a decision that's best for you

Ask questions about abortion procedures, preparation and support before and after the abortion

To find an abortion service to suit your needs, discuss your options with 1800 My Options phone line, your doctor, local community health or women's health organisation (contacts below)

Discuss contraception options with your doctor, nurse or health worker and choose an option to suit your needs going forward. Long acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs) like implants and intrauterine devices (IUDs) provide safe, long term prevention of pregnancy



*You have the right to safe, confidential health care and services where your choices are respected and supported*