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ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE | VOLUME 77, ISSUE 3, P155-161, MARCH 01, 2008

Second trimester termination of pregnancy: a review by site and procedure type

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Published: January 15, 2008 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2007.11.004>

Background

We hypothesized that complications for second trimester terminations are higher in a low-volume residency training program than in a high-volume private practice.

Study Design

Complications and cost were compared between three groups undergoing second trimester terminations: patients undergoing dilation and evacuation (D&E) at a university hospital (Hospital D&E, $n=83$) or medical pregnancy termination at a university hospital (Hospital Induction, $n=89$) and D&E at a private outpatient facility (Clinic D&E, $n=253$).

Results

Major complications occurred in 11% of the Hospital D&E, 10% of the Hospital Induction, and 1% of the Clinic D&E patients ($p=.0019$). Complication rates remained statistically significant when a logistic regression model was applied to the data. The mean total charge for the three respective groups was US\$4625, US\$5029 and US\$1105 ($p<.001$).

Conclusion



Second trimester terminations of pregnancy by D&E in well-selected patients in a dedicated outpatient facility can be safer and less expensive than hospital-based D&E or induction of labor.

Keywords

[Second trimester abortion](#) • [Residency training](#) • [Complications of abortion](#) • [Cost for abortion](#)

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Article Info

Publication History

Published online: January 15, 2008

Accepted: November 20, 2007

Received in revised form: November 20, 2007

First published: October 11, 2007



es



The findings from this report were presented as a poster at the annual meeting of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in New Orleans, LA, April 28, 2003.

Identification

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2007.11.004>

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