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Mifepristone and vaginal misoprostol on the same day for abortion from 50 to 63 days' gestation

Michelle C Fox • Mitchell D Creinin • Bryna Harwood DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0010-7824\(02\)00358-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0010-7824(02)00358-X)

Abstract

In a previous study of 40 women up to 49 days' gestation, our research center demonstrated that mifepristone 200 mg followed on the same day by misoprostol 800 µg vaginally produced abortion at rates similar to standard regimens which administer the two drugs 24 or 48 h apart. We performed this study to evaluate the same regimen in women with pregnancies at 50 to 63 days' gestation. Forty women from 50 to 56 days' gestation (Group 1) and 40 women from 57 to 63 days' gestation (Group 2) inserted misoprostol vaginally 6 to 8 h after taking mifepristone. Participants were instructed to return 24 ± 1 h after using misoprostol for an evaluation that included transvaginal ultrasonography. Subjects who had not aborted received a second dose of misoprostol to administer 48 h after the mifepristone. All participants were to return 2 weeks later. Ultrasound examinations were performed in those who required a second dose of misoprostol to confirm the abortion was successful. At 24 h after receiving misoprostol, 37/40 (93%, 95% CI 80, 98%) and 36/40 (90%, 95% CI 76, 97%) women from Groups 1 and 2, respectively, had expelled the pregnancy. By follow-up 2 weeks after taking mifepristone, all 40 women in Group 1 (100%, 95% CI 91, 100%) and 39/40 women in Group 2 (98%, 95% CI 87, 100%) had complete abortions. One woman in the latter group who aborted within the first 24 h had an incomplete abortion treated by suction curettage. This pilot study suggests that mifepristone 200 mg, followed on the same day by misoprostol 800 µg vaginally, effects abortion in women 50 to 63 days' gestation at rates comparable to regimens using longer dosing intervals between medications. Though this regimen is promising, larger randomized trials comparing it to standard regimens are needed before widespread use.

Keywords

[Abortion](#) • [Medical abortion](#) • [Mifepristone](#) • [Misoprostol](#)

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