

Early Options

There are two options for early abortion: Medical abortion or the “abortion pill” and surgical abortion. These are some of the differences between the procedures.

Common questions about your options	Abortion Pill	Surgical Abortion
How far along in the pregnancy can I be?	Up to 9 weeks (63 days) from your last menstrual period.	Up to 12 weeks from your last menstrual period.
How long does it take?	Usually 2 visits to the provider: Take mifepristone on day 1; take misoprostol at home on day 2, 3, or 4. The miscarriage usually takes hours to occur. A follow up visit is mandatory.	One visit to the provider. The procedure takes 5-10 minutes. The follow up visit is scheduled only as needed.
How Painful is it?	From mild to very strong cramping on and off throughout the abortion. Pain medicines help.	From mild to very strong cramps during the procedure for 3-5 minutes. Pain medicines help.
How much will I bleed?	Heavy bleeding and passing clots is common during the miscarriage. Afterwards, lighter bleeding is common for weeks. Sometimes spotting can occur up to six weeks later.	Usually light bleeding from 1-7 days.
About how much does it cost?	\$350	\$350
Can the abortion fail?	97% effective. Must have a completion or surgical abortion if it fails.	Over 99% effective. Less than 1% of the time it can be an incomplete procedure. Sometimes this can be taken care of with medications.
Is it safe?	Both medications have been studied and used safely. Possible complications are rare. Future childbearing is not affected.	It is very safe. Possible complications are rare. Childbearing ability is not affected.

A Comparison of your Early Options

Advantages

Abortion Pill	Surgical Abortion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It may seem more natural, like a miscarriage. ➤ No shots, instruments, unless it fails. ➤ Being at home rather than in an office may seem more comforting and private. ➤ Any support person can be there during the process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is quick and over in a few minutes ➤ It is highly successful. ➤ There is less bleeding. ➤ Medical staff is present. ➤ It can be done further along in pregnancy

Disadvantages

Abortion Pill	Surgical Abortion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It takes several days. ➤ It's not completely predictable. ➤ Bleeding can be heavy and lasts longer. ➤ If hemorrhage occurs, you must travel to come back to our office. ➤ Cramping can be severe and can last for hours. ➤ Two or more visits to the provider are required. ➤ It has a higher failure rate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A clinician must insert instruments inside the uterus. ➤ There are possible but extremely rare complications of doing a surgical procedure. ➤ The cramping is intense but only lasts for about 3-5 minutes.