

Sexual & Reproductive Health Clinical Champion Project

Supporting access and equity to abortion and
contraception care

By: Catherine Hannon

Date: August 2022



the women's
the royal women's hospital

Background

- Funded by Department of Health, Victoria. Department of Health, Women's Reproductive Health Plan 2022-2030.
- Team: Clinical Lead Dr Paddy Moore
 Project Lead Cath Hannon
- Objective: increased access and equity to abortion and long acting contraception services



Our activities

Advocacy and
sector
leadership

Communication
and social
marketing

Workforce
capability and
development



Our activities

Advocacy and sector leadership

- The Women's advocacy priorities
- State Department of Health
- Women's Health Victoria and 1800myoptions



Advocacy & sector leadership



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The Women's Position Statement: Abortion

About the Women's

The Women's is a leader in women's sexual and reproductive health services and is a public provider of abortion services in Victoria. We are part of a broader health system that includes public and private providers of abortion services.

Our publicly funded abortion service is an important component of our commitment to ensure women's access to safe, high-quality healthcare. We provide priority of access to people with highly complex psychosocial needs, including those who experience violence and reproductive coercion.

The Women's is committed to increasing access to abortion services by building the clinical capacity and expertise of other hospitals, health services and the primary care sector to also provide abortion and contraception services. This is critical to ensure that women can access abortion services that are safe, timely and close to their home and social support networks.

The Women's Position

The Women's is a pro-choice organisation that provides access to abortion services to support women's choice and ability to exercise their reproductive rights.

Access to abortion is fundamental to women's sexual and reproductive healthcare, is a human right and an important public health issue.

The Women's is committed to providing public abortion services, as we believe that every individual – regardless of their age, gender identity, sexuality, ethnicity, religion, social class, and ability – should have access to reproductive healthcare.

The Women's provides abortion services consistent with the *Abortion Law Reform Act 2008* and supports a person's right to access healthcare within this legal framework.

Abortion services must be provided by registered health practitioners and regulated in the same way as all other health procedures and services. We provide support and counselling services, which is an integral part of abortion healthcare.

The Women's strongly supports a person's right to accurate, unbiased sexual and reproductive health information – including options counselling – to support their informed decision-making and



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Our activities

Communication and social marketing

- The role of the Women's
- Normalise and destigmatise
- Abortion as healthcare



Politicians must commit to upholding abortion rights

News Categories

- Cancer >
- Contraception and abortion >
- Family violence >
- Fundraising >
- Gynaecology >
- Mental health >
- Events >
- Pregnancy >
- Research and clinical trials >
- Reconciliation >
- Staff >
- Your impact >
- Volunteers >
- Babies >



The Royal Women's Hospital CEO Sue Matthews

11 MAY 2022 | CONTRACEPTION AND ABORTION

In the below piece published in the Womens Agenda on 10 May 2022, our CEO Sue Matthews calls on Australia's politicians to commit to upholding abortion rights.

The news out of the US that the Supreme Court is on the cusp of voting to overturn abortion rights, according to an initial draft majority opinion, is beyond terrifying.

The impact would see the end to 49 years of a federal constitutional protection of abortion rights - allowing each US state to decide whether to restrict or ban abortion.

Looking at the alarming situation in the US highlights just why we must keep abortion and reproductive rights on the national policy agenda and public discourse here in Australia.

Abortion in Australia is legal. It has been fully decriminalised in all states and territories, starting

Supporting timely access to abortion care

News Categories

- Cancer >
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Jess Westcott, Social Worker for the Women's Abortion and Contraception Service, undertaking the early medical abortion care training.

6 JULY 2022 | CONTRACEPTION AND ABORTION

More Victorian healthcare providers will be able to provide best practice early medical abortion care, thanks to a new training module.

The free, online training module was created by The Royal Women's Hospital as part of its Sexual and Reproductive Health Clinical Champion program. Funded by the Victorian Department of Health, the training is available on our [early medical abortion \(resources and support\)](#) webpage and on the [Women's Health Victoria](#) website.

Early medical abortion involves the use of the medications mifepristone and misoprostol (marketed as MS-2 Step®) to end a pregnancy up to nine weeks of gestation. These medicines have been approved in Australia since 2012 and are subsidised under the [Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme](#).

Our activities

Workforce capability and development

- Health literacy, access to evidence based resources
- Community of Practice forums
- Clinical expertise and mentoring



Web-based resources

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HOME > HEALTH PROFESSIONALS > CLINICAL RESOURCES > EARLY MEDICAL ABORTION (EMA)

Early medical abortion (EMA)

Quick links

- About EMA
- EMA clinical pathway
- EMA resources and support

About EMA EMA clinical pathway EMA resources and support **Contacts**

Sexual & Reproductive Health Clinical Champion Network

COVID 19: Information for patients and visitors. Information for staff.

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HOME > HEALTH PROFESSIONALS > CLINICAL RESOURCES > EARLY MEDICAL ABORTION (EMA) > EARLY MEDICAL ABORTION - RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

Early medical abortion - resources and support

Clinical guidelines	Support and resources are available for providers of early medical abortion.
Resources and events	
Strengthening Hospital Responses to Family Violence (SHRFV) Tool Kit	
Early medical abortion (EMA)	The Royal Women's Hospital
About early medical abortion	The Women's is an established provider of abortion and contraception services and provides training and information to practitioners in the primary and secondary care sectors.
Early medical abortion - clinical pathway	The Sexual & Reproductive Health Clinical Champion Network at the Women's provides clinical leadership for abortion and contraception care, including:
Early medical abortion - resources and support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Practical Implanon NXT trainingIUD procedural training (by application, please email)Policies, guidelines and procedures (PGP) on abortion and LARC care

Early medical abortion online training

This free, online training module was created by the Royal Women's Hospital as part of our Sexual and Reproductive Health Clinical Champion program. Funded by the Victorian Department of Health, the training is available on the Women's Health Victoria website.

Early medical abortion e-module



WHV training platform



SRH Courses



Early medical abortion
\$0.00

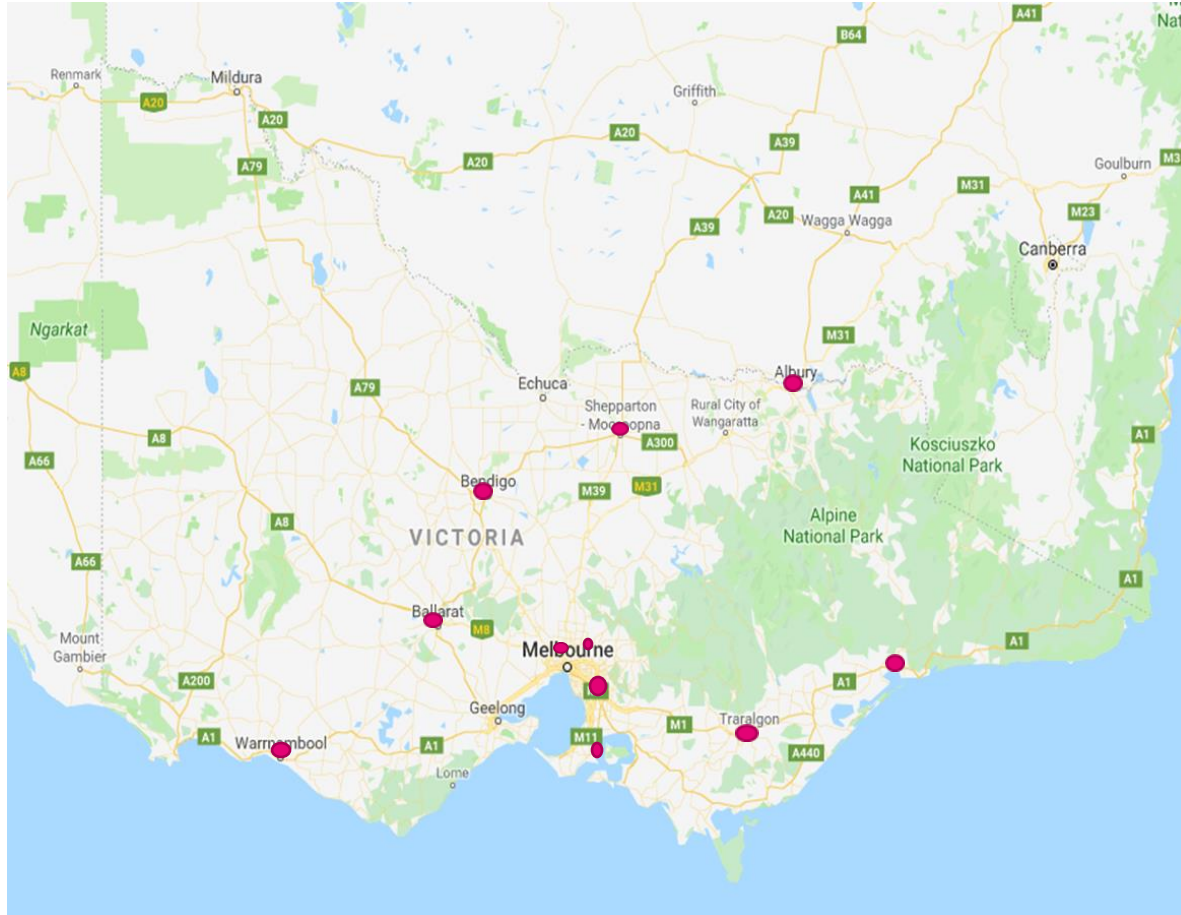


Abortion, Contraception and Sexual Health:
Supporting Client Access
\$0.00

Abortion and
contraception
service
system

- sexual and reproductive health hubs
- secondary hospital sector
- primary care sector

Sexual & Reproductive Health hubs



8 rural and regional Victoria
3 metro Melbourne
Based in community health primary care settings
Nurse/Nurse Practitioner led models of care

<https://www.thewomens.org.au/health-professionals/clinical-resources/early-medical-abortion-ema>

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Thankyou

thewomens.org.au



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