

Title	Terms of reference for performing surgical abortions: outside of healthcare organisations and inside health centres
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Aim

Following the request of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, HAS has developed terms of reference that define the requirements (especially clinical and organisational) to follow to ensure quality of care and patient safety during surgical abortions performed outside of a healthcare organisation.

Moreover, and in accordance with the law on modernisation of our health system enacted in January 2016, HAS has established terms of reference on the methods of performing surgical abortions inside health centres, which is based on the “Terms of reference for performing surgical abortions outside of healthcare organisations”.

It is important to specify that the objective is not to develop good practice recommendations or to evaluate the surgical abortion technique.

Conclusions and results

- It is necessary to provide for and to ensure that the quality of care and safety of patients during surgical abortions inside or outside of healthcare organisations are identical.
- Complete information adapted to the different methods of abortion must be given to the women to inform their decision about the choice of method and place it is performed.
- The requirements to respect and the good practice recommendations are the same regardless of the place where the procedure will be performed, in terms of care prior to surgical abortion, antibiotic prophylaxis, pre-medication, preparation of the cervix, dilation and aspiration, monitoring and follow-up after abortion.
- The structures are subject to the same risk management system and the same certification and accreditation procedures as in a healthcare organisation.

Methods

The assessment method selected to respond to this request is based on the analysis of the synthetic literature, consultation with stakeholders for examination of medical conditions and a review of the texts currently in effect for the review of regulatory conditions.

Thus, the conclusions of the assessment are based on the data collected. These conclusions are reviewed by the Health Care Management Strategies Committee and then validated by the HAS Board.

Written by

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