

INFORMAZIONI SUL PERCORSO DI INTERRUZIONE VOLONTARIA DI GRAVIDANZA - ENGLISH

INFORMATION ON ABORTION

Since 1978, in accordance to Law 194, every woman can request an abortion (hereinafter IVG - Voluntary Termination of Pregnancy) within the first 90 days of pregnancy for health, family, social, economic reasons. The IVG is carried out in public healthcare facilities. The request for termination of pregnancy must be signed by the woman requesting it and by the doctor that carries out the medical examination and consultancy. The procedure is free of charge.

After 90 days of pregnancy, the assessment of an eventual termination of pregnancy takes place in case of serious risk to the mother's or baby's life, and always done by medical staff.

In case of an IVG requested by a minor, it is necessary to obtain authorization of both parents having guardianship; in the event there should not be parental consent, the situation is submitted to the tutelary Judge (Giudice Tutelare) through a report presented by the Services.

Come si accede al percorso dell'Interruzione Volontaria di Gravidanza (IVG) ?

How can you have access to the Voluntary Termination of Pregnancy (IVG)?

You can contact the Consultorio (Women's Clinic), preferably one in your residence area, where you will be welcomed, given information on the procedure, counseling, and an appointment will be made with the Gynecologist who will give you all the necessary information on the IVG methods and will issue a document where both your pregnancy and your will to terminate it are acknowledged. If you are between 14 to 24 years of age, go to the Consultorio Giovani (Young Women's Clinic), a dedicated space for people in this age group active in all areas.

The Consultorio guarantees an interview and counseling to remove any eventual cause that leads to the decision of terminating the pregnancy and provides psychological and social assistance and, on request, information on voluntary associations.

Connection with hospital wards and reference clinics that carry out IVG is ensured.

Considering the time limit to carry out an IVG and on the choice of method, it is important to not delay in contacting a Consultorio to have the necessary time to calmly make a decision and the possibility to have access to the medical abortion.

Cosa devo portare per il rilascio del documento/certificato?

What do I have to bring for the issuance of the document/certificate?

- Laboratory pregnancy test based on urine analysis or a blood test that measures the beta HCG dosage (pregnancy hormone)
- A valid ID document
- for Italian and Foreign Citizens registered at the SSN (Italian National Healthcare System): valid healthcare card

- for Foreign Citizens not registered at the SSN, belonging to the European Union or to Countries with signed Agreements: the norms previewed in the reciprocal agreements are valid
- For non-EU citizens without a valid visa or resident permit, without economic resources: STP (Foreigner Temporary Present) document.

Sono minorenne e voglio fare l'interruzione di gravidanza.

I'm a minor and I want to terminate the pregnancy

Go to the Consultorio Giovani (Young Women's Clinic), preferably the one in your area, where you will be welcomed, helped and supported. If you are less than 18 years old, you will need the consent of both parents for an IVG, if they have joint parental responsibility, or of the only parent that has exclusive parental responsibility. If you have already talked to your parents, you can go with them to the Consultorio, otherwise the Operators of the Consultorio can help you to get them involved. Instead, if you cannot or you do not want to talk to them, within seven days, the counseling team will prepare a joint report which the social assistant shall send to the tutelary Judge who then will express his consent after evaluating the case. Remember that in these procedures nobody is authorized to contact your parents without your knowledge.

Quando posso fare l'intervento di interruzione di gravidanza?

When can I terminate the pregnancy?

By law, it is necessary to wait seven days from the date of issuance of the document and the performance of the termination of pregnancy. Second thoughts may come at any moment.

The document can be issued from the Consultorio, but also by the general practitioner or a trusted doctor.

During these 7 days, you can present yourself to the Hospital of reference, or another one of your choice, on the day of outpatient access to the IVG clinic to program whatever is necessary. The doctor will make a clinical assessment, will be give you all the information and clarifications necessary and will ask for your consent. Contraceptive counseling will also be done and, based on this, a contraceptive method will be programmed.

At any moment, you can ask for psychological and social counseling.

In che modo posso interrompere la gravidanza?

How can I terminate a pregnancy?

A pregnancy can be terminated in two ways:

- surgical abortion
- medical abortion

You can choose the method you prefer if there are no medical contraindications to the chosen method and if you are in the previewed time frame.

Come avviene l'aborto farmacologico?

How does the medical abortion take place?

You can choose a medical abortion if your pregnancy is less than 63 days (9 weeks) from your last period and if there are no contraindications to the use of the previewed drugs. The procedure is carried out in two phases in a clinic. In the first one, you take a drug (Mifepristone, better known as Ru486) which interrupts the pregnancy. Then, exactly after 48 hours, you take the second drug, one similar to the prostaglandins, which facilitates the detachment and expulsion of the product of conception. The symptomology is that similar to a spontaneous

abortion in the first phases of pregnancy. You will be under observation for some hours and before going back home, you will be given all the necessary information and references.

After about two weeks of the second drug, it is necessary to perform an ultrasound scan to check that the abortion took place and exclude the need of further treatment.

Come avviene l'aborto chirurgico?

How does the surgical abortion take place?

The medical-surgical intervention requires hospitalization in day hospital regime. One enters early in the morning and is discharged in the afternoon of the same day, except for unforeseen complications. The surgery, done under anesthesia, is carried out in an operating theater. Simultaneously to the surgery, you can have the insertion of an IUD (intrauterine device) or subcutaneous implant, free of charge, if you request it, for contraception.

After 20 days of the surgery, you must repeat the laboratory pregnancy test.

Posso interrompere la gravidanza dopo il terzo mese ?

Can I terminate the pregnancy after the third month?

Pregnancy interruption after the first 90 days from the date of conception is possible only when "the pregnancy or the birth may cause serious risk to the woman's life" or, within the limits previewed by Article 7 of Law 194/78, when pathologic processes are verified, among which those regarding to significant fetus anomalies or malformation, "that determine a serious risk for the physical and psychological health of the mother". The Gynecologist of the center where the IVG will be carried out may avail himself of the collaboration of experts for the documentation and certificate.

Cosa fare dopo l'Interruzione Volontaria di Gravidanza?

What should I do after the Abortion?

After the IVG you must carry out the controls that will have been programmed for you by the Gynecologist.

At the Consultorio, in addition to the gynecologic follow-ups, you can benefit from the psychological counseling and the activation of support contacting the Service.

Furthermore, it is important to reduce the risk of unwanted pregnancies, plan and start contraception immediately in the two years following the IVG which is free of charge for women registered at the SSN, residents or domiciled in Tuscany, or holders of a STP code (Foreigners Temporarily Present) and for students until 25 years of age enrolled in the Tuscan Universities. Contraceptive counseling and the start of contraception takes places already in the Wards and Clinics where the IVG is carried out. To continue it, you can be subsequently followed by the Consultorio.