TIMELINE OF MEDICATION ABORTION CARE IN THE UNITED STATES


7. FDA approves first abortion pill in the U.S., Mifeprex, with a restricted distribution system.¹

8. HR 3580 signed into law, authorizing FDA to create the Risk Evaluation & Mitigation Strategies (REMS) program.²

9. Mifeprex label is updated to align with current medical practices, but REMS are left in place.³

10. FDA establishes a REMS program for Mifeprex.³

11. Leading medical associations – including AMA, ACOG, & AAFP – call on FDA to lift the REMS.

12. Research shows use of telehealth for medication abortion increases access to earlier abortion care.⁴

13. FDA approves generic form of Mifeprex; the same REMS restrictions apply.⁵

14. Research shows benefits of adding mifepristone to current miscarriage management regimen.

15. Medical organizations call on FDA to lift the in-person requirements of the REMS during the COVID-19 pandemic.

16. Studies confirm the safety of dispensing medication abortion via telehealth.

17. FDA temporarily suspends the in-person requirements of the mifepristone REMS through the remainder of the COVID-19 public health emergency⁶ and announces it is undertaking a full review of the mifepristone REMS.

18. The 20th anniversary of FDA approval of Mifeprex.

19. FDA completes its review of the mifepristone REMS and announces it will 1) permanently remove the in-person dispensing requirement and 2) require that pharmacies that dispense the drug be certified.⁷

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21. FDA completes its review of the mifepristone REMS and announces it will 1) permanently remove the in-person dispensing requirement and 2) require that pharmacies that dispense the drug be certified.⁸