TIMELINE OF MEDICATION ABORTION CARE IN THE UNITED STATES

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

Sept. 2000

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

Sept. 2007

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

Mar. 2016

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

Jan. 2018

5. FDA approves generic form of Mifeprex; the same REMS restrictions apply.⁴

Apr. 2019

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

Mar. 2020

7. FDA temporarily suspends the in-person requirements of the mifepristone REMS through the remainder of the COVID-19 public health emergency⁵ and announces it is undertaking a full review of the mifepristone REMS.⁶

Apr.–May 2021

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

Sept. 2020

9. FDA approves generic form of Mifeprex; the REMS restrictions apply.⁷

Apr. 2021

10. After completing another review of the mifepristone REMS, the FDA permanently removes the in-person dispensing requirement and allows pharmacies to certify to fill prescriptions for mifepristone.⁸

Jan. 2023


