



Know your rights and the facilities to approach for services

KNOW YOUR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Accessing Safe *and* Legal Abortions

ABORTION (ALSO KNOWN AS TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY) IS LEGAL IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Yet, most womxn do not know **where** to access safe abortion services, how to obtain information about abortion facilities and whether they are legally entitled to have a free abortion in public health care facilities.

The WLC, together with partners and allies, has put together this pamphlet to ensure that you have basic information about your right to access safe and legal abortion, as well as helping you find your nearest abortion facility.

The WLC uses the term “womxn” as an intention to be inclusive of all persons who identify themselves as womxn. It further serves as a rejection of patriarchal values attached to the gender binary.



THE RIGHT TO ACCESS A SAFE AND LEGAL ABORTION IS PART OF RIGHT REFERRED TO AS REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS.

We firmly believe in and agree with the Choice of Termination of Pregnancy Act; the law that deals with abortion and provides that:

- The decision to have children is part of a womxn's right to access reproductive health care services.
- This includes contraception, termination of pregnancy, as well as sexual education and counselling programmes and services.
- Womxn and girls have the right to be informed of and to have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of fertility regulation of their choice.
- Womxn have the right to access appropriate health care services and the government has the responsibility to provide reproductive health care to all, and also to provide safe conditions under which the right of choice can be exercised without fear, harm or stigma.

HAVING AN ABORTION IN TERMS OF THE LAW IN SOUTH AFRICA



WHEN CAN YOU GET AN ABORTION?

TIMELINE FOR PREGNANCY:	CONDITIONS:	ABORTION PERFORMED BY:
First 12 weeks of pregnancy	Available on request - no conditions	A doctor, a nurse or a registered midwife
13-20 weeks of pregnancy	Abortion available under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rape or incest- Danger to your mental or physical health- The fetus is not viable- If the pregnancy would significantly affect your economic or social circumstances	A doctor
After 20 weeks of pregnancy	Abortion is only available in limited circumstances, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- If the pregnancy is a danger to your life or the health of the fetus	A doctor



All womxn have the right to access safe and legal abortions (termination of pregnancy), for free at a government hospital or clinic.

Before the end of the first 3 months of pregnancy, an abortion can be carried out by a doctor or a trained registered nurse or midwife – therefore making abortion more accessible earlier in the pregnancy.

IMPORTANT TO KNOW:

No healthcare worker is legally allowed to refuse an abortion based on age, profession, nationality, race or any other criteria.

You also do not need permission from anyone, including partners or family members, when getting an abortion, even if you are a minor.


You also have the right to abortion counselling, which you can request from the healthcare center where you choose to get your abortion.

To have a free abortion at a public health clinic or hospital:

- First, you need to go to a local primary healthcare clinic.
- The primary health care clinic must examine you to confirm your pregnancy, provide counselling if asked for and schedule an appointment for the abortion or refer you to another public health clinic or hospital where the abortion can be performed.

Where else can you go to have a safe abortion?

Private doctors and non-profit organizations who are trained and qualified to perform abortions also provide safe and legal abortions. Private health facilities and organizations do charge fees for this (sometimes thousands of rands).

 **An abortion performed by a person who is not trained and unqualified** and has not been designated as an abortion service provider by your provincial Department of Health can be a danger to your health and your life.



FACILITIES FOR 1ST TRIMESTER (UP TO 12 WEEKS) ABORTIONS IN MPUMALANGA

NAME	LOCATION	DISTRICT
Matsuiu CHC	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
Kanyamazane CHC	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
Ka-B0kweni CHC	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
Nelspruit CHC	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
Phola Nsikazi CHC	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
Rob Ferreira Hospital	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
M'Africa CHC	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni

NAME	LOCATION	DISTRICT
Barberton Hospital	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
Bhuga CHC	Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
Naas CHC	Nkomazi	Ehlanzeni
Langeloo CHC	Nkomazi	Ehlanzeni
Tonga Hospital	Nkomazi	Ehlanzeni
Tinswalo Hospital	Nkomazi	Ehlanzeni
Mapulaneng Hospital	Bushbuckridge	Ehlanzeni
Thulamahashe CHC	Bushbuckridge	Ehlanzeni
Sakie Hospital	Thaba Chweu	Nkangala
Mammithlake Hospital	Dr JS Moroka	Nkangala
Kwamhlanga Hospital	Thembisile Hani	Nkangala
Bernice Samuel Hospital	Victor Khanye	Nkangala
Empumelelweni CHC	Emalahleni	Nkangala
Evander Hospital	Govan Mbeki	Gert Sibande
Sead Clinic	Govan Mbeki	Gert Sibande
Carolina Hospital	Chief Albert Luthuli	Gert Sibande
Embhuleni Hospital	Chief Albert Luthuli	Gert Sibande
Ermelo Hospital	Msukaligwa	Gert Sibande
Standerton Hospital	Lekwa	Gert Sibande
Piet Retief Hospital	Mkhondo	Gert Sibande
Amajuba Hospital	Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme	Gert Sibande
Elsie Ballot Hospital	Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme	Gert Sibande

ACCREDITED PRIVATE FACILITIES

Women's Clinic (Sr H.N Ngobeni)	Cnr Samora Machel & Paul Kruger Street, City of Mbombela	Ehlanzeni
Dr Noel Dimaka	Stand 5629 Ekukhanyeni Centre, Embhahlenhle	Govan Mbeki

FACILITIES FOR 2ND TRIMESTER (UP TO 20 WEEKS) ABORTION IN MPUMALANGA

NAME	LOCATION	DISTRICT
Tonga Hospital	Nkomazi	Ehlanzeni
Matibidi Hospital	Bushbuckridge	Ehlanzeni
Sabie Hospital	Thaba Chweu	Ehlanzeni
Barberton Hospital	Mjindi	Ehlanzeni
Embhuleni Hospital	Chief Albert Luthuli	Gert Sibande
Carolina Hospital	Chief Albert Luthuli	Gert Sibande
Mammithlake Hospital	Dr JS Moroka	Nkangala
Bernice Samuel Hospital	Victor Khanye	Nkangala

ACCREDITED PRIVATE FACILITY

Dr Noel Dimaka	Stand 5629 Ekukhanyeni	Govan Mbeki
Women's Clinic (Sr H.N Ngobeni)	Cnr Samora Machel & Paul Kruger Street, City of Mbombela	Ehlanzeni

The information on facilities that provide abortion services in South Africa is always changing.

The Where to Care map tracks these changes to ensure that the information is up to date. You can access the map by visiting <https://bit.ly/WhereToCareMap>

Please turn your mobile data service on and ALLOW location permission when asked to view the map. Please note that the map is zero-rated, meaning that it will not use your data.

**SHOULD YOU REQUIRE ASSISTANCE IN
ACCESSING ABORTION SERVICES,
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US:**

WEBSITE
www.wlce.co.za

HELPDESK QUERIES:
info@wlce.co.za

TELEPHONE:
021 424 5660

WHATSAPP
079 421 8197



**WOMEN'S
LEGAL
CENTRE**

