

State of Alaska

Induced Termination
of Pregnancy Statistics
2007

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Alaska Induced Termination of Pregnancy Statistics 2007

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Introduction

Alaska Induced Termination of Pregnancy Statistics, 2007, published by the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, contains information about induced terminations that occurred in Alaska during calendar year 2007.

Why is induced termination reporting important? Induced termination data can be used to:

- Monitor trends in the number, rate, and ratio of induced terminations.
- Assess changes in the types of procedures used to end a pregnancy and the gestational age (in weeks) when induced terminations are performed.
- Calculate pregnancy rates.
- Identify the characteristics of women who may be at risk for unintended pregnancy.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of family planning programs and programs to prevent unintended pregnancy.

Unintended pregnancy refers to pregnancies that are unwanted or when the mother wanted to be pregnant at a later date. In Alaska, 43.6 percent of all pregnancies that resulted in a live birth were unintended during 2006¹. In the U.S., it is estimated that 49 percent of pregnancies are unintended with about half of these pregnancies ended by an induced termination². Thus reducing the number of unintended pregnancies would likely reduce the number of induced terminations.

Alaska has followed the recent national trend in birth rates. From 1997 to 2006, the fertility rate in Alaska has increased 9.0 percent, while the teen birth rate declined 18.8 percent. However, birth rates are based only on the number of live births and may change as a result of the rate at which women become pregnant, the rate at which pregnancies are ended in an induced termination, or a combination of both. Induced termination reporting can provide a better understanding of which factors are driving the birth rate in Alaska.

¹ Alaska Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, 2006 data.

² Henshaw SK, Unintended Pregnancy in the United States, *Family Planning Perspectives*, 1998, 30(1):24–29 & 46.

Reporting Issues

The information in this report is based on induced termination of pregnancy reports received by the Bureau of Vital Statistics as of February 6, 2008. A copy of the form used to report induced termination of pregnancies is located in Appendix B. Definitions of the terms used in this report are located in Appendix A. In this report, the term induced termination of pregnancy is used synonymously with induced termination.

In Alaska, reports of induced terminations of pregnancy are mandated by AS 18.50.245. Hospitals, clinics, or other institutions where an induced termination is performed are required to submit a report to the Bureau. The report cannot contain the name of the patient, but must contain information similar to the United States Standard Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy, as published by the National Center for Health Statistics. Reports of induced terminations are strictly confidential and must be destroyed after preparing the annual report.

Alaska Statutes also require that any reports produced from induced termination of pregnancy forms may only be presented in aggregate form so that specific individuals may not be identified. Furthermore, the report may not identify or provide information that can be used to identify the name of the physician who performed the induced termination, the name of the facility where the induced termination occurred, or the name of the municipality or community in which the induced termination occurred. Because of the reporting guidelines outlined in state statutes, induced termination statistics by borough or census area are not available for publication.

This report contains information on induced terminations that occurred in Alaska. In the past several years over 200 Alaska women on average obtained induced terminations out of state. For example, 223 Alaska women obtained induced terminations in Washington State during 2006³. It is unknown how many Alaska women obtained induced terminations in states other than Washington. Since the out of state occurrence data is incomplete, it is not included in this report.

Pregnancy rates are based on the total number of live births, induced terminations, and fetal deaths per 1,000 women of childbearing age. Currently, population estimates for 2007 are unavailable, so pregnancy rates cannot be calculated. Additionally, birth data for 2007 is preliminary, since data for Alaska residents who gave birth out of state is incomplete. The induced termination information for 2007, however, is final. Information on pregnancy rates, induced termination rates, and induced termination ratios is posted on the Bureau's web site; www.vitalrecords.alaska.gov.

In 2005, Alaska law and regulations were amended to change the reporting requirements for induced terminations of pregnancy and to add a section relating to informed consent when conducting induced terminations. The changes to state law requires the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) to maintain a web site containing information on fetal development, induced termination, pregnancy, and family planning. The web site also has resources associated with pregnancy-related social and health services in Alaska. The informed consent web site is located at www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/wcfh/informedconsent/default.htm. Second, the Bureau of Vital Statistics is required to monitor whether the unidentified patient requested and received a written copy of the information required to be maintained on the Internet. The regulations took effect midnight August 21, 2005.

³ Center for Health Statistics, Washington State Department of Health. Washington State Pregnancy and Induced Abortion Statistics report, 2006.

Executive Summary

- A total of 1,701 induced terminations were reported in Alaska in 2007, with Alaska residents accounting for 98.4 percent of the induced terminations that occurred in Alaska. This is a decrease of 11.5 percent from the 1,923 induced terminations reported in 2006.
- In Alaska, 59.0 percent of women who obtained an induced termination in 2007 reported they had no previous induced terminations. Sixteen percent of women reported that they had two or more previous induced terminations.
- Most (51.6 percent) of the women who obtained induced terminations in 2007 were less than 25 years of age. In the most recent year for which national data are available (2004), 50.2 percent of women who obtained an induced termination were less than 25 years of age⁴.
- Women age 15 to 17 accounted for 7.5 percent of all induced terminations in Alaska during 2007, an increase from 6.3 percent in 2006.
- Teens (age 15 to 19 years) received 18.6 percent of the induced terminations in 2007. In 2004, 17.4 percent of women in the U.S. who obtained an induced termination were 19 or under.
- In Alaska, 81.1 percent (excluding unknown responses) of women who obtained an induced termination in 2007 were unmarried. In the U.S., the most recent information shows 82.8 percent of women who obtained an induced termination were unmarried.
- In 2007, 56.1 percent of women who obtained an induced termination in Alaska reported they had one or more previous live births. Nationally, 59.0 percent of U.S. women who received an induced termination in 2004 reported they had one or more previous live births.
- More than nine of every 10 (92.9 percent) induced terminations in Alaska were performed at 12 weeks or less gestational age. In 2004, 88.3 percent of induced terminations performed in the U.S. involved pregnancies of 12 weeks or less gestational age.
- Suction curettage was the most commonly performed procedure in Alaska at 78.0 percent and Mifepristone (RU-486) was second at 20.9 percent. Suction curettage was used in 88.6 percent of induced terminations performed in the U.S. during 2004.
- Unmarried, white women age 20 to 29 accounted for nearly one-fourth (24.8 percent) of all induced terminations performed in Alaska during 2007.
- Over one-fourth (29.2 percent) of all women who obtained induced terminations in Alaska during 2007 reported that they used their own financial resources as the source of payment; 36.6 percent reported that Medicaid was the source of payment.
- In 2007, seven induced termination reports in Alaska indicated that the pregnancy was terminated due to the detection of a congenital anomaly.
- Most women (87.8 percent; 92.9 percent excluding unknowns) who undergo an induced termination did not request a copy of the information contained in the informed consent website. However, 25.0 percent (26.0 percent excluding unknowns) did report receiving a copy of the information contained in the informed consent website.

⁴Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Surveillance Summaries, November 23, 2007. MMWR 2007:56 (No. SS-9).

Table 1 Summary of Characteristics of Women Receiving Induced Terminations: Alaska Occurrence, 2005–2007

	2007		2006		2005	
	Induced Terminations	Percent	Induced Terminations	Percent	Induced Terminations	Percent
Residence						
Alaska	1,673	98.4	1,885	98.0	1,943	99.3
Other State	0	0.0	12	0.6	8	0.4
Not Stated	28	1.6	26	1.4	5	0.3
Total	1,701	100.0	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0
Age						
Under 15	8	0.5	7	0.4	12	0.6
15–19	316	18.6	362	18.8	374	19.1
15–17	127	7.5	121	6.3	128	6.5
18–19	189	11.1	241	12.5	246	12.6
20–24	552	32.5	667	34.7	679	34.7
25–29	391	23.0	447	23.2	421	21.5
30–34	218	12.8	224	11.6	242	12.4
35–39	150	8.8	147	7.6	146	7.5
40–44	53	3.1	45	2.3	70	3.6
45 and over	4	0.2	9	0.5	7	0.4
Not Stated	9	0.5	15	0.8	5	0.3
Total	1,701	100.0	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0
Race						
Asian/PI	143	8.4	157	8.2	108	5.5
Black	120	7.1	141	7.3	131	6.7
Alaska Native	423	24.9	400	20.8	437	22.3
White	936	55.0	1,112	57.8	1,162	59.4
Other/Not Stated	79	4.6	113	5.9	118	6.0
Total	1,701	100.0	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0
Marital Status						
Married	314	18.5	338	17.6	339	17.3
Unmarried	1,344	79.0	1,532	79.7	1,547	79.1
Unknown/Not Stated	43	2.5	53	2.8	70	3.6
Total	1,701	100.0	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0
Education						
Less than 12 years	266	15.6	264	13.7	282	14.4
12 years	772	45.4	996	51.8	826	42.2
13 or more years	572	33.6	454	23.6	684	35.0
Other/Not Stated	91	5.4	209	10.9	164	8.4
Total	1,701	100.0	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0
Previous Live Births						
0	740	43.5	845	43.9	814	41.6
1	405	23.8	457	23.8	490	25.1
2	327	19.2	340	17.7	348	17.8
3	136	8.0	156	8.1	169	8.6
4	40	2.4	70	3.6	73	3.7
5 or more	46	2.7	39	2.0	48	2.5
Not Stated	7	0.4	16	0.8	14	0.7
Total	1,701	100.0	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0
Previous Induced Terminations						
0	1,003	59.0	1,146	59.6	1,281	65.5
1	402	23.6	466	24.2	431	22.0
2	183	10.8	184	9.6	126	6.4
3	56	3.3	64	3.3	50	2.6
4	18	1.1	20	1.0	23	1.2
Over 4	14	0.8	16	0.8	9	0.5
Not Stated	25	1.5	27	1.4	36	1.8
Total	1,701	100.0	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0
Weeks of Gestation¹						
1–4	26	1.5	26	1.4	23	1.2
5–8	912	53.6	1,127	58.6	1,101	56.3
9–12	643	37.8	655	34.1	733	37.5
13–16	108	6.4	87	4.5	76	3.9
17–20	1	0.1	0	0.0	5	0.3
21–24	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
Not Stated	11	0.6	28	1.5	17	0.9
Total	1,701	100.0	1,923	100.0	1,956	100.0

¹ Gestation based on the physician's estimate.

Table 2 **Number of Induced Terminations by Race and Age:**
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	143	2	10	17	41	33	14	20	6	0	0
Black	120	0	9	14	41	38	12	4	1	0	1
Alaska Native	423	3	38	40	155	89	57	29	9	2	1
White	936	2	66	108	292	217	121	91	30	2	7
Other/Not Stated	79	0	4	10	23	14	14	6	7	0	1
Total	1,701	7	127	189	552	391	218	150	53	4	10

Table 3 **Induced Terminations by Age and Percentage by Race:**
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	100.0	1.4	7.0	11.9	28.7	23.1	9.8	14.0	4.2	0.0	0.0
Black	100.0	0.0	7.5	11.7	34.2	31.7	10.0	3.3	0.8	0.0	0.8
Alaska Native	100.0	0.7	9.0	9.5	36.6	21.0	13.5	6.9	2.1	0.5	0.2
White	100.0	0.2	7.1	11.5	31.2	23.2	12.9	9.7	3.2	0.2	0.7
Other/Not Stated	100.0	0.0	5.1	12.7	29.1	17.7	17.7	7.6	8.9	0.0	1.3
Total	100.0	0.4	7.5	11.1	32.5	23.0	12.8	8.8	3.1	0.2	0.6

Table 4 **Induced Terminations by Race and Percentage by Age:**
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Race	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Asian/PI	8.4	28.6	7.9	9.0	7.4	8.4	6.4	13.3	11.3	0.0	0.0
Black	7.1	0.0	7.1	7.4	7.4	9.7	5.5	2.7	1.9	0.0	10.0
Alaska Native	24.9	42.9	29.9	21.2	28.1	22.8	26.1	19.3	17.0	50.0	10.0
White	55.0	28.6	52.0	57.1	52.9	55.5	55.5	60.7	56.6	50.0	70.0
Other/Not Stated	4.6	0.0	3.2	5.3	4.2	3.6	6.4	4.0	13.2	0.0	10.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 5 Number of Induced Terminations by Marital Status and Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	314	0	1	16	72	80	55	57	28	2	3
Unmarried	1344	7	123	169	461	305	160	88	22	2	7
Unknown/ Not Stated	43	0	3	4	19	6	3	5	3	0	0
Total	1,701	7	127	189	552	391	218	150	53	4	10

Table 6 Induced Terminations by Age and Percentage by Marital Status:
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	100.0	0.0	0.3	5.1	22.9	25.5	17.5	18.2	8.9	0.6	1.0
Unmarried	100.0	0.5	9.2	12.6	34.3	22.7	11.9	6.5	1.6	0.1	0.5
Unknown/ Not Stated	100.0	0.0	7.0	9.3	44.2	14.0	7.0	11.6	7.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	0.4	7.5	11.1	32.5	23.0	12.8	8.8	3.1	0.2	0.6

Table 7 Induced Terminations by Marital Status and Percentage by Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Marital Status	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Married	18.5	0.0	0.8	8.5	13.0	20.5	25.2	38.0	52.8	50.0	30.0
Unmarried	79.0	100.0	96.9	89.4	83.5	78.0	73.4	58.7	41.5	50.0	70.0
Unknown/ Not Stated	2.5	0.0	2.4	2.1	3.4	1.5	1.4	3.3	5.7	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 8 **Number of Induced Terminations by Type of Procedure and Weeks of Gestation: Alaska Occurrence, 2007**

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	6	0	3	2	0	1	0	0
Methotrexate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	355	20	325	7	0	0	0	3
Sharp Curettage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suction Curettage	1,326	6	578	629	108	0	0	5
Other/Not Stated	14	0	6	5	0	0	0	3
Total	1,701	26	912	643	108	1	0	11

Table 9 **Induced Terminations by Type of Procedure and Percentage by Weeks of Gestation: Alaska Occurrence, 2007**

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Methotrexate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	20.9	76.9	35.6	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.3
Sharp Curettage	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suction Curettage	78.0	23.1	63.4	97.8	100.0	0.0	0.0	45.5
Other/Not Stated	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0

Table 10 **Induced Terminations by Weeks of Gestation and Percentage by Type of Procedure: Alaska Occurrence, 2007**

Type of Procedure	Weeks of Gestation							
	Total	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	Not Stated
Dilation and Evacuation (D&E)	100.0	0.0	50.0	33.3	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0
Methotrexate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mifepristone (RU-486)	100.0	5.6	91.6	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Sharp Curettage	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suction Curettage	100.0	0.5	43.6	47.4	8.1	0.0	0.0	0.4
Other/Not Stated	100.0	0.0	42.9	35.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.4
Total	100.0	1.5	53.6	37.8	6.4	0.1	0.0	0.6

Table 11 Number of Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	496	1	25	61	127	107	78	64	26	4	3
Insurance	51	0	5	2	12	15	8	8	0	0	1
Medicaid	622	2	70	73	216	156	64	28	11	0	2
Multiple Payment Sources	26	0	0	3	8	3	6	3	3	0	0
Other/Not Stated	506	5	27	50	189	110	62	47	13	0	3
Total	1,701	8	127	189	552	391	218	150	53	4	9

Table 12 Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Percentage by Age:
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	29.2	12.5	19.7	32.3	23.0	27.4	35.8	42.7	49.1	100.0	33.3
Insurance	3.0	0.0	3.9	1.1	2.2	3.8	3.7	5.3	0.0	0.0	11.1
Medicaid	36.6	25.0	55.1	38.6	39.1	39.9	29.4	18.7	20.8	0.0	22.2
Multiple Payment Sources	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.5	0.8	2.8	2.0	5.7	0.0	0.0
Other/Not Stated	29.7	62.5	21.3	26.5	34.2	28.1	28.4	31.3	24.5	0.0	33.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 13 Induced Terminations by Age and Percentage by Method of Payment:
Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Payment Type	Age Group										
	Total	<15	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Not Stated
Cash	100.0	0.2	5.0	12.3	25.6	21.6	15.7	12.9	5.2	0.8	0.6
Insurance	100.0	0.0	9.8	3.9	23.5	29.4	15.7	15.7	0.0	0.0	2.0
Medicaid	100.0	0.3	11.3	11.7	34.7	25.1	10.3	4.5	1.8	0.0	0.3
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	0.0	0.0	11.5	30.8	11.5	23.1	11.5	11.5	0.0	0.0
Other/Not Stated	100.0	1.0	5.3	9.9	37.4	21.7	12.3	9.3	2.6	0.0	0.6
Total	100.0	0.5	7.5	11.1	32.5	23.0	12.8	8.8	3.1	0.2	0.5

Table 14 **Number of Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Race: Alaska Occurrence, 2007**

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	496	107	60	26	271	32
Insurance	51	4	3	6	36	2
Medicaid	622	232	34	54	279	23
Multiple Payment Sources	26	3	1	0	20	2
Other/Not Stated	506	77	45	34	330	20
Total	1,701	423	143	120	936	79

Table 15 **Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Percentage by Race: Alaska Occurrence, 2007**

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	29.2	25.3	42.0	21.7	29.0	40.5
Insurance	3.0	0.9	2.1	5.0	3.8	2.5
Medicaid	36.6	54.8	23.8	45.0	29.8	29.1
Multiple Payment Sources	1.5	0.7	0.7	0.0	2.1	2.5
Other/Not Stated	29.7	18.2	31.5	28.3	35.3	25.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 16 **Induced Terminations by Race and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2007**

Payment Type	Race					
	Total	Alaska Native	Asian/PI	Black	White	Other/Not Stated
Cash	100.0	21.6	12.1	5.2	54.6	6.5
Insurance	100.0	7.8	5.9	11.8	70.6	3.9
Medicaid	100.0	37.3	5.5	8.7	44.9	3.7
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	11.5	3.8	0.0	76.9	7.7
Other/Not Stated	100.0	15.2	8.9	6.7	65.2	4.0
Total	100.0	24.9	8.4	7.1	55.0	4.6

Table 17 Number of Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Marital Status: Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	496	111	371	14
Insurance	51	8	42	1
Medicaid	622	67	537	18
Multiple Payment Sources	26	9	17	0
Other/Not Stated	506	119	377	10
Total	1,701	314	1,344	43

Table 18 Induced Terminations by Method of Payment and Percentage by Marital Status: Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	29.2	35.4	27.6	32.6
Insurance	3.0	2.5	3.1	2.3
Medicaid	36.6	21.3	40.0	41.9
Multiple Payment Sources	1.5	2.9	1.3	0.0
Other/Not Stated	29.7	37.9	28.1	23.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 19 Induced Terminations by Marital Status and Percentage by Method of Payment: Alaska Occurrence, 2007

Payment Type	Marital Status			
	Total	Married	Unmarried	Unknown/Not Stated
Cash	100.0	22.4	74.8	2.8
Insurance	100.0	15.7	82.4	2.0
Medicaid	100.0	10.8	86.3	2.9
Multiple Payment Sources	100.0	34.6	65.4	0.0
Other/Not Stated	100.0	23.5	74.5	2.0
Total	100.0	18.5	79.0	2.5

Appendix A: Definitions

Gestational Age - The number of weeks between the first day of the last menstrual period and the date of delivery or the end of the pregnancy. This report uses the physician's estimate of gestational age.

Induced Termination of Pregnancy - The purposeful interruption of pregnancy with the intention other than to produce a live-born infant or to remove a dead fetus, and which does not result in a live birth.

Induced Termination Procedures:

Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) - a procedure that is generally used after 12 weeks of gestation and is usually done on an outpatient basis. Dilation and Evacuation may involve a combination of vacuum aspiration, dilation and curettage (D&C), and the use of surgical instruments (such as forceps).

Hysterectomy - a surgical procedure in which the uterus is removed either with the fetus inside or after the fetus has been removed. It is rarely performed in association with an induced termination, and then only when a pathological condition of the uterus (such as fibroid tumors) or an emergency warrants its removal.

Hysterotomy - a surgical procedure that involves surgical entry into the uterus (as in a cesarean section) and the removal of a fetus that is too small to survive, even with extraordinary life support measures. Hysterotomy is rarely performed and then only if other induced termination procedures fail.

Mifepristone (also known as RU-486) - usually used along with a prostaglandin for ending pregnancies of up to 49 days gestation. The administration of mifepristone causes the placenta to detach from the uterine wall. A second drug (misoprostol) is given two days later to induce uterine contractions, expelling the products of conception.

Methotrexate - interferes with the vitamin folic acid and kills rapidly growing cells. It is also used for the nonsurgical treatment of ectopic pregnancies (when fertilized eggs grow outside the uterus). Methotrexate is administered by injection and is followed 5 to 7 days later with misoprostol to stimulate uterine contractions.

Saline/Prostaglandin (Intrauterine Instillation) - rarely used procedures that involve either withdrawing a portion of amniotic fluid from the uterine cavity by a needle inserted through the abdominal wall and replacing this fluid with a concentrated salt solution (known as saline instillation) or injecting a prostaglandin (a substance with hormone-like activity) into the amniotic sac (known as intra-uterine prostaglandin instillation). Both processes induce labor, resulting in the expulsion of the fetus.

Sharp Curettage (Dilation and Curettage, D&C) - requires the dilation (temporary widening) of the cervix (the uterine opening). The fetal and placental tissues are then scraped out with a curette, which resembles a small spoon.

Suction Curettage (Vacuum Aspiration) - a frequently performed procedure that is generally used in the first 12 weeks of gestation (the first trimester). This procedure is done on an outpatient basis and may be done in a physician's office or a clinic.

After the cervix is dilated, a flexible cannula (a small, hollow tube) is inserted into the uterus through the cervix. The tube is attached to a pump, which is used to evacuate the uterine contents through the cannula.

Spontaneous Abortion - The loss of a fetus during pregnancy due to natural causes.

Appendix B: Sample of Induced Termination of Pregnancy Report Form

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
REPORT OF INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

1) PATIENT'S AGE	2) DATE OF PREGNANCY TERMINATION (MM/DD/YY)		3) CITY WHERE TERMINATION OF PREGANCY OCCURRED	
4) PATIENT'S ETHNICITY	5) PATIENT'S RACE		6) CITY AND STATE WHERE PATIENT RESIDES	
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-HISPANIC <input type="checkbox"/> MEXICAN <input type="checkbox"/> PUERTO RICAN <input type="checkbox"/> CUBAN <input type="checkbox"/> CENTRAL OR SOUTH AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER OR UNKNOWN HISPANIC	<input type="checkbox"/> WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> AFRICAN AMERICAN (BLACK) <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE ALASKAN OR AMERICAN INDIAN <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____		7) MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
			8) EDUCATION (SPECIFY THE HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED)	
			ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY (0-12)	COLLEGE (1-4 OR 5+)
PREVIOUS PREGNANCIES (COMPLETE EACH SECTION. DO NOT LEAVE BLANK.)				
9) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS		10) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS SPONTANEOUS ABORTIONS		
9A) NOW LIVING	9B) NOW DEAD	NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE		
NUMBER _____	NUMBER _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	11) NUMBER OF PREVIOUS INDUCED TERMINATIONS OF PREGNANCIES (DO NOT INCLUDE THIS TERMINATION)		
		NUMBER _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NONE		
12) PHYSICIAN'S ESTIMATE OF GESTATION		13) DATE LAST NORMAL MENSES BEGAN (MM/DD/YY)	14) METHOD OF PAYMENT	
COMPLETED WEEKS _____		_____ / _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAID <input type="checkbox"/> INSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____	
15) PRIMARY PROCEDURE USED TO TERMINATE PREGNANCY (CHECK ONE ONLY)		16) WAS THIS TERMINATION ELECTED DUE TO THE DETECTION OF A CONGENITAL ANOMALY?		
15A) <input type="checkbox"/> SUCTION CURETTAGE 15B) <input type="checkbox"/> DILATION AND EVACUATION 15C) <input type="checkbox"/> SHARP CURETTAGE 15D) <input type="checkbox"/> SALINE 15E) <input type="checkbox"/> PROSTAGLANDIN 15F) <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTERECTOMY 15G) <input type="checkbox"/> HYSTEROTOMY 15H) <input type="checkbox"/> MIFEPRISTONE 15I) <input type="checkbox"/> METHOTREXATE 15J) <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____		YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
		16B) TYPE OF CONGENITAL ANOMALY		
		CHROMOSOMAL ANOMALY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
		NEURAL TUBE DEFECT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
		HEART ANOMALY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
		VENTRAL WALL DEFECT YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
		OTHER YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
		(SPECIFY) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	PATIENT REQUESTED A COPY OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED ON THE INTERNET UNDER AS 18.05.032			
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	PATIENT RECEIVED A WRITTEN COPY OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED ON THE INTERNET UNDER AS 18.05.032			