



March 15, 2019

Dear Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines,

The Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crises is pleased to submit this letter of support for the application to update and revise the listing of mifepristone and misoprostol on the Model List of Essential Medicines. The proposed changes are based on a large body of evidence regarding the safety, efficacy, and acceptability of early medication abortion. The proposed changes include:

1. Moving mifepristone-misoprostol from the Complementary to Core Model List of Essential Medicines;
2. Removing the asterisk that states that close medical supervision is required for administration of mifepristone-misoprostol for medication abortion;
3. Including dosage form for the mifepristone-misoprostol combi-pack; and
4. Removing the statement "Where permitted under national law and where culturally acceptable."

All of these revisions align with the global evidence and have the potential to support expanded access to safe abortion care in humanitarian settings. Indeed, these changes have the potential to aid stakeholders who intend to provide medication abortion care during the outset of humanitarian emergencies and facilitate procurement of mifepristone through the 2019 Inter-Agency Reproductive Health Kits.

For these reasons, the Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crises supports all four suggested changes and looks forward to the release of the revised Model List of Essential Medicines.

Sincerely,

Sarah Knaster on behalf of the IAWG Steering Committee
Senior Advisor, Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on Reproductive Health in Crises