



February 28rd, 2019

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

UNFPA would like to support the inclusion of mifepristone-misoprostol in the Model List of Essential Medicines, as recommended in the application by the WHO Maternal and Perinatal Health & Preventing Unsafe Abortion Team. These suggested changes are based on evidence regarding the safety of its use and the actual needs given the low availability of the combined therapy in most countries with large needs.

In its application, WHO provides evidence-based justification to support the following changes in the EML listing pertaining to provision of mifepristone-misoprostol medical abortion:

1. Move mifepristone-misoprostol from the Complementary to Core Model List of Essential Medicines
2. Remove the asterisk that states that close medical supervision is required for administration of mifepristone-misoprostol for medical abortion
3. Include dosage form for combi-pack containing: mifepristone 200 milligram tablet [1] and misoprostol 200 microgram tablet [4]
4. Remove the statement "Where permitted under national law and where culturally acceptable"

In light of the body of evidence supporting mifepristone-misoprostol safe and effective use, it is timely to reclassify it as core essential medicines on the Model List of Essential Medicines. Based on the existing evidence laid out in the application, and in line with updated WHO service guidelines, UNFPA endorses the underpinning arguments for all four suggestions, made in the application by WHO.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Kalasa", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Mr. Benoit Kalasa
Technical Division Director
United Nations Population Fund