

## SCOPE DEFINITION

**Guideline Title:** *Termination of pregnancy*

Scope framework	
<b>Population</b>	<p><i>Which group of people will the guideline be applicable to?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women requesting termination of pregnancy</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose</b>	<p><i>How will the guideline support evidence-based decision-making on the topic?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify relevant evidence related to: diagnosis, assessment and management of termination of pregnancy including surgical and medical options</li> <li>Update changes to align with the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 (implications for practitioner practice)</li> </ul>
<b>Outcome</b>	<p><i>What will be achieved if the guideline is followed?</i> (This is not a statement about measurable changes / not SMART goals)</p> <p>Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate assessment, treatment and management of women requesting termination of pregnancy</li> <li>Guideline alignment with the changes (if any) to the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018</li> </ul>
<b>Exclusions</b>	<p><i>What is not included/addressed within the guideline</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed health promotion</li> <li>Detailed prevention of unwanted pregnancies and long-term contraception options</li> <li>Standard post-surgical care</li> <li>Discussion of ethical, religious or spiritual views on termination of pregnancy, including reason for termination. This includes (but is not limited to), rape, abnormalities, anomalies or disability of mother or fetus)</li> <li>Specific procedures of feticide</li> <li>Referral pathways of local HHS including management of conscientious objection, impact on service provision and individual management of wait lists</li> <li>Specific technical details of surgical procedures for termination of pregnancy</li> </ul>

## Clinical questions

Question	Likely Content/Headings/Document Flow
<b>Introduction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition</li> <li>• Classifications</li> <li>• Law reform updates (if any)</li> </ul>
<b>1.</b> What are the legal considerations for termination of pregnancy in Queensland?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current position in Queensland</li> <li>• Consent</li> <li>• Capacity</li> <li>• Conscientious objection and practitioner rights</li> <li>• Referral</li> <li>• Documentation</li> <li>• Indemnity</li> </ul>
<b>2.</b> What clinical assessments of the woman should be undertaken when termination is being considered/has been agreed/requested?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment of counselling/psychosocial support needs</li> <li>• Clinical assessments</li> </ul>
<b>3.</b> How is termination of pregnancy achieved safely?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access and availability             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Local service capabilities and considerations</li> <li>○ Prescriber capabilities/responsibilities</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Referral—must refer on             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conscientious objection</li> <li>○ Higher facility</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Methods             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Surgical</li> <li>○ Medical (drug protocols, common methods)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Care setting—hospital and home (including criteria)</li> <li>• Psychosocial support</li> </ul>
<b>4.</b> What care should be provided to the woman following a termination of pregnancy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post termination care and follow up</li> <li>• Complications</li> <li>• Follow up advice, standard care</li> <li>• Medical—routine drug regimens</li> </ul>

### Potential areas for audit focus (to be refined during development)

- What proportion of health facilities are receiving patients under 22 weeks for termination of pregnancy?
- Are women referred appropriately to other health facilities for termination of pregnancy from practitioners who are conscientious objectors?
- What proportion of women who undergo a surgical termination of pregnancy?
- What proportion of women who undergo a medical termination of pregnancy?
- What proportion of women undergoing surgical termination of pregnancy are prescribed cervical ripening agents?
- Are women having a termination of pregnancy provided with pain relief?
- Is counselling routinely offered?
- How many health practitioners becoming registered prescribers of mifepristone/misoprostol?