Summary of termination of pregnancy

Clinical assessment
- Confirm pregnancy
- Medical history
- Psychosocial history
- Pregnancy circumstances
  - Refer as appropriate
  - Discuss fetal autopsy if clinically indicated
- If < 18 years, consider risk of harm and mandatory reporting requirements

Examination/Investigations
- Determine gestational age
- Consider ectopic pregnancy
- Routine antenatal bloods
- Consider cervico-vaginal swabs
- Offer opportunistic health care:
  - Pap smear
  - Sexual health check
  - Rubella titre
  - Smoking cessation advice

Information
- Provide accurate, non-judgemental, easy to understand information on:
  - Options for the pregnancy
  - Methods of termination
  - Post termination care

Coordinate referrals
- Offer confidential non-judgemental counselling
- Offer formal mental health referral if required
- Refer to other services as required (e.g. private service providers)

Documentation
- Document the decision making process

Conscientious objection
- Disclose if termination healthcare requested
- Transfer care to other service/providers without conscientious objection

Legal requirements ToP Act 2018
- Less than or equal to 22+0 weeks
  - A medical practitioner may perform a termination upon request
- At or after 22+1 weeks
  - A medical practitioner may perform a termination if they consider that in all the circumstances, the termination should be performed
  - The medical practitioner must seek agreement from another medical practitioner
  - Circumstances both must consider:
    - All relevant medical circumstances
    - The woman’s current and future physical, psychological and social circumstances
    - Professional standards and guidelines relevant to the practitioners in relation to termination

Pre-termination assessment
- Woman requests termination of pregnancy

Assessment of individual circumstances
- Proceed to termination?
- Yes
  - Surgical or medical procedure
    - Consider:
      - Gestation of pregnancy
      - Clinical indications
      - Preferences of the woman
      - Service level capability and expertise
    - Consent
      - Consider issues of capacity
      - Consider adequacy of information provision and counselling
      - If < 14 years:
        - Involve paediatric services
        - Assess mandatory reporting requirements
    - Coordinate referrals
      - Consider referrals for specialist care, termination procedure, psychological support/counselling
  - Post termination care
- No
  - Surgical or medical procedure
    - Consider:
      - Gestation of pregnancy
      - Clinical indications
      - Preferences of the woman
      - Service level capability and expertise
    - Consent
      - Consider issues of capacity
      - Consider adequacy of information provision and counselling
      - If < 14 years:
        - Involve paediatric services
        - Assess mandatory reporting requirements
    - Coordinate referrals
      - Consider referrals for specialist care, termination procedure, psychological support/counselling
  - Post termination care

Considerations
- Histopathology
- RhD immunoglobulin
- Analgesia requirements
- Provide after care advice
- Discuss contraceptive options
- Provide advice on accessing psychological care
- Ensure follow-up
- Refer as required

RhD: rhesus D, ToP: termination of pregnancy, <: less than,