

International Seminar on

**Medication Abortion: Availability and use, and impact on abortion safety and women's health**

Organized by the Scientific Panel on Abortion of the IUSSP

and the Population Council-Nairobi and Senegal Offices

*Dakar, Senegal, July 2016*

*Call for Papers*

The objective of this seminar is to share results from new studies and new research approaches, in order to stimulate and advance research on use of medication abortion and its impact. We invite papers on availability, accessibility and use of medication abortion and its impact on abortion safety and women's health and survival.

Dramatic increases in misoprostol sales have been reported worldwide. Clinical studies have shown the efficacy of use of misoprostol alone in pregnancy termination, the greater efficacy of misoprostol combined with mifepristone, and confirm that it is a highly effective method for the treatment of incomplete abortion. WHO guidelines recommend medication abortion as an appropriate medical procedure for both postabortion care and pregnancy termination services. Some studies have found despite increased use of misoprostol for pregnancy termination, the number of women treated for postabortion care may not decrease, but the severity of complications they experience declines.

The seminar invites papers that address: trends in availability and use of medication abortion; factors that affect use and how well the method is used; the impact of increased use of medication abortion on access to safe abortion services and postabortion care and on health outcomes; and reasons why the incidence of abortion complications may not decline rapidly even when use of misoprostol is increasing. In addition, studies on new techniques to incorporate use of misoprostol/medication abortion in the measurement of abortion incidence are also of interest to this seminar.

Papers may utilize qualitative and/or quantitative approaches, propose new methodologies or assess existing methodologies, all with the goal of advancing and guiding future work on this topic. The seminar invites submissions from a range of contexts around the world—in terms of economic development and access to health care and in terms of the legal and de facto situation regarding access to abortion care.

The IUSSP Scientific Panel on Abortion invites researchers in the field to submit a detailed 500-1000 word abstract (and if the author(s) wish, a full paper which must be unpublished and not submitted for publication) and fill out the online submission form **before October 31, 2015** directly to the IUSSP website at: <http://www.iussp.org/activities/>

**Deadline for abstract: 31 October 2015.**

**Applicants will be informed whether paper is accepted by: 30 November 2015.**

Abstracts and papers may be submitted in English, French or Spanish. However, the working language of the meeting is English, and presentations must be made in English.

For further information, please contact Susheela Singh ([ssingh@gutmacher.org](mailto:ssingh@gutmacher.org)).