

Terminations of pregnancy in Tasmania

Information on support and services for termination of pregnancy (abortion) in Tasmania.

Legal and available

Termination of pregnancy - also known as abortion - is legal and available in Tasmania. There are two types of termination: medication and surgical.

Medication termination

LEGAL up to 9 weeks of pregnancy.

AVAILABLE without a referral from:

- Family Planning Tasmania
- MSI Reproductive Choices (formerly Marie Stopes)
- Some General Practitioners (GPs)

ACCESS by contacting Family Planning Tasmania or your GP. A full list of providers is available on the Pregnancy Choices website, at pregnancychoicestas.org.au.

Surgical termination

LEGAL up to 16 weeks of pregnancy - but many providers have limits of 12/14 weeks.

AVAILABLE at no cost from:

- The Royal Hobart Hospital
- Launceston General Hospital
- Mersey Community Hospital
- Some private gynaecologists (for people with private health insurance, out of pocket fees may apply)

ACCESS by contacting Family Planning Tasmania or your GP or visit pregnancychoicestas.org.au.

To access a termination

Contact your GP, Family Planning Tasmania or your chosen provider as soon as you can.

Early testing and treatment are vital to meet the legal cut-off dates, particularly for the medication termination service.

After 16 weeks

For a termination after 16 weeks, your GP or Family Planning Tasmania can refer you interstate for surgery (additional costs will apply).

You may also be able to get a termination later on in the pregnancy in Tasmania if two doctors agree your health is at risk.

In addition, you may also be able to received a Medication Termination later on in the pregnancy as a public hospital in-patient (in the hospital).

**Visit our website for more
information:**

fpt.org.au



Help making a decision

If you aren't sure about the right decision for you, you can access confidential, non-judgemental and non-directional pregnancy choices counselling.

This is provided by the following organisations:

- Family Planning Tasmania
- Women's Health Tasmania
- Pulse Youth Health South
- The Link Youth Health Service

What does a termination involve?

Medication termination

A low-risk, non-invasive way to end a pregnancy. The success rate is up to 98% per cent. You take two tablets, normally at home, over 36 hours. You'll experience heavy bleeding, some cramping and may feel sick and have some vomiting and diarrhoea.

If you have a medication termination at Family Planning Tasmania, you will need to attend the clinic in Glenorchy, Launceston or Burnie. We now offer medication terminations in one appointment for people who do not need pregnancy choices counselling, as we can now do all required tests in-house, including blood tests and ultrasounds. We will follow up with phone calls to ensure everything progressed safely.

Surgical termination

The process usually involves a suction curette (removal of tissue from the uterus) and in most cases is done under a light general anesthetic.

This is carried out in a hospital or a day surgery and you normally get to go home after a few hours. You will need a referral from a GP to access the surgical termination.

Before a termination

Before you access either type of termination, you will have to have an ultrasound and blood tests to confirm and date your pregnancy and that it is safe to go ahead.

Family Planning Tasmania now offers ultrasound services in-house. Otherwise, your GP or Family Planning Tasmania doctor can refer you for these tests.

Costs

Termination costs vary depending on the type, the providers and your own circumstances.

You may be able to get help to cover the costs of a termination as well as your travel to Hobart or interstate.

Surgical termination is now available at no cost through the three listed public hospitals. If you choose to visit a private gynaecologist for a surgical termination, at a cost to you. Check the details with your provider.

Contacts

Family Planning Tasmania

Sexual and reproductive health clinics, including providing medical terminations and surgical referrals.

fpt.org.au

- Glenorchy: 03 6273 9117
- Launceston: 03 6343 4566
- Burnie: 03 6431 7692

Women's Health Tasmania

Women's Health Tasmania has launched a website dedicated to providing information around pregnancy choices.

pregnancychoicestas.org.au

6231 3212

Pulse Youth Health Service (for people under 25)

6166 1421 - Glenorchy

0400 33 608 (call or text)- Ulverstone

The Link Youth Health Service (for people under 26)

thelink.com.au

6231 2927

MSI Reproductive Choices

www.msiaustralia.org.au

1300 874 104

fpt.org.au