

# MEDICATION ABORTION CARE VS. EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

	MEDICATION ABORTION CARE	EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION
	<p><b>What is medication abortion care?</b> Medication abortion care is a safe and effective FDA-approved medication regimen to end an early pregnancy.</p>	<p><b>What is emergency contraception?</b> Emergency contraception, commonly known as the morning-after pill or Plan B or Ella, is a safe and effective FDA-approved method to prevent pregnancy.</p>
<b>How does it work?</b>	Medication abortion care ends a pregnancy with the use of two different pills: mifepristone, which is taken first, and misoprostol, which is taken 24-48 hours later.	Emergency contraception works by delaying ovulation or interfering with sperm movement. It does not work if you are pregnant.
<b>Does it end a pregnancy?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>When can it be used?</b>	Up to 10 weeks in pregnancy.	If started up to 120 hours (five days) of unprotected sex. The sooner you take it, the more effective it is.
<b>How safe is it?</b>	Medication abortion care has a more than 99% safety rate. Since FDA approval in 2000, it has been used by over 4 million women.	Emergency contraception is one of the safest medications available and has been used by millions to prevent pregnancy.
<b>Where can I get it?</b>	<b>Some health care providers and online pharmacies.</b> Patients who live in states that allow for a virtual consultation with a health care professional can have the medications deliver to them through the mail or expedited delivery services. Unfortunately, patients who live in the 19 states that ban the use of telehealth services for abortion care still will have to travel to a clinic to pick up the pills in person.	<b>At pharmacies.</b> Plan B is available over the counter. Although it is sometimes stocked behind the counter, you don't need a prescription. Ella requires a prescription, but that prescription can be filled at a pharmacy.
<p><b>Bottom line – emergency contraception <u>prevents</u> pregnancy while medication abortion care <u>ends</u> an early pregnancy.</b> Both are safe and effective and should be available, affordable, and accessible for everyone who needs them.</p>		