

# A Qualitative Survey of Women's views of abortion care during Covid 19

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- Seven days after early medical abortion at home following the new Covid 19 pathways, patients were telephoned by the same member of our team with the main aim of asking whether they would like any further support or counselling.
- They were then asked if they were happy to answer eight very simple questions regarding their recent experience.
- The questions were devised to assess the service as a whole from our patients' perspective.

All of the women telephoned preferred telephone consultation when compared to the pre Covid face to face appointment.

The majority felt that their EMA had gone well with only one patient saying that they felt it was traumatic.

When considering pain scores, most women did feel that the pain they experienced was moderate or even severe, suggesting therefore that a discussion regarding analgesia is extremely important

## QUESTIONS ASKED

How did you find the home procedure?

Went well, Painful or Traumatic

Did you experience any complications?

Would you have preferred a face to face consultation?

For how many days did you continue to bleed following EMA

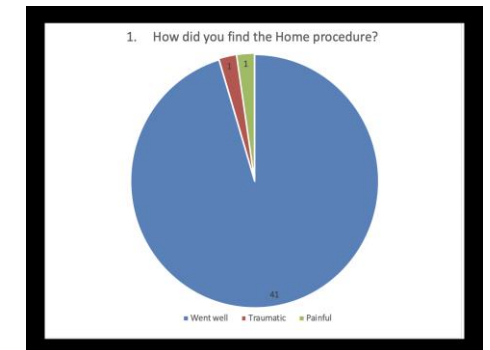
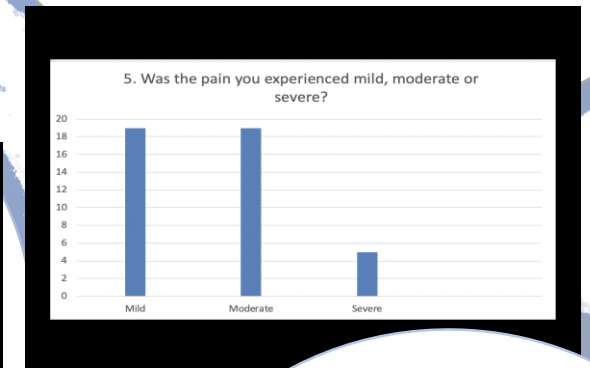
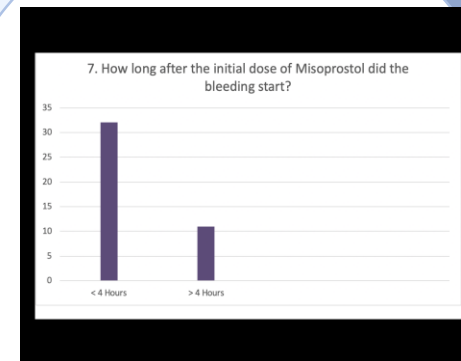
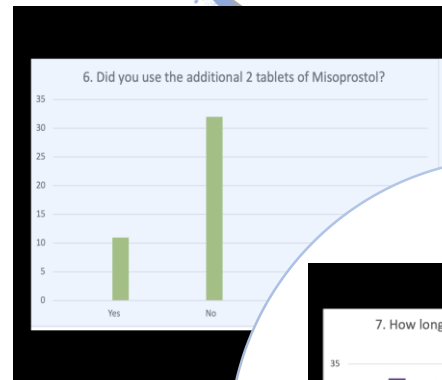
1-4 days or more than 4 days

Was the pain you experienced mild, moderate or severe?

Did you use the additional 2 tablets of misoprostol?

How long after the initial dose of misoprostol did the bleeding start?

Would you like any follow up, support or counselling following your recent experience?



We are cautiously reassured by this data albeit of a small sample, that the new Covid pathway for Abortion care is viewed as acceptable by women in our area.

It does emphasise the importance of counselling pre procedure regarding analgesia requirements and making sure our women have access to pain relief.

Informed consent is even more important during these times and telling patients when they should expect to bleed and for how long will help reduce anxiety.

Although only a few of our cohort expressed a wish to access counselling, we now have a robust service available to all with new funding recently approved.