



HUTT maternity

Hutt Valley Maternity Care

Information on Mifepristone and Misoprostol

Information for women

Mifepristone (Mifegyne) Information

- Your treatment will start in the Maternity Assessment Unit (MAU), with one Mifegyne tablet containing 200mcg of Mifepristone. This acts by blocking the effects of progesterone, a hormone which is needed for the pregnancy to continue.
- You will need to stay in MAU for one hour after taking the tablet, to ensure the dose is absorbed.
- After taking the Mifegyne tablet, nothing much will happen for about 12 hours. You may feel unwell, perhaps a little faint or sick during the first few hours.
- There is a small risk that you may miscarry at home.
- If you bleed and soak more than one maternity pad an hour for 2-3 hours in a row, please phone MAU on 587 2649 for advice.
- Out of hours ring delivery suite on 569 7535 for advice.

Misoprostol Information

- 36-48 hours later you will be admitted to the maternity unit, where you will start the Misoprostol regime.
- You will have a single room and the average length of stay is about 24 hours. Please bring in an overnight bag with sleepwear, toiletries, sanitary pads, snacks and perhaps something to read. The midwives can provide clothes for baby, if required.
- Misoprostol is used to stimulate contractions to help birth your baby. The most common side effect of Misoprostol is nausea (we can give you anti-nausea drugs). Some women may get mild diarrhoea.
- Misoprostol needs to be given under supervision so that any side effects such as severe vaginal bleeding (an uncommon side effect) can be dealt with immediately.
- Misoprostol is approved in New Zealand only as an anti-ulcer drug. However, it is used world-wide in obstetrics and is safe and effective.
- You will need to sign a consent form for both the Mifepristone and Misoprostol.
- If you have any questions please ask the doctor or midwife/nurse.

Please contact MAU if...

- You have pain that you cannot manage with simple pain relief such as paracetamol and a hot water bottle/ heat pack.
- You bleed and soak more than one maternity pad an hour for two-three hours in a row
- You are worried about any of the symptoms that you are experiencing
- There are problems with you keeping your next appointment

Even if it is a small question or worry please do not hesitate to call us. The direct phone line to MAU is 587 2649. We are open Monday- Friday, 8am-4.30pm.

Maternity Assessment Unit (MAU) Early
Pregnancy clinic, **phone 587 2649**
Monday-Friday, 8am-4.30pm

After hours, weekends and public holidays
Delivery suite, **phone 569 7535**