



MIFE MUSINGS

Woman's Health Options

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MIFEGYNE[®]
MIFEPRISTONE

3 comprimés à 200 mg

Evelgyn

LABORATOIRES

REAGYNE
Avec Oxitocine (Lactane)
1999/00/01

THE HISTORY

❖ Mifepristone, also known as RU-486, is a medication typically used with misoprostol to bring about an abortion.



HISTORY CONT.

- ❖ Effectiveness should be verified after use. Mifepristone is taken by mouth while the misoprostol is used vaginally at Woman's Health Options (WHOL) in Edmonton (some centres use it buccal).
- ❖ Mifepristone was developed in 1980 and came into use in France in 1987 and China in 1988 (although trials began in China in 1985)

HISTORY CONT.

- ❖ RU-486 (Mife) is a progesterone receptor antagonist (antiprogestosterone and antiglucocorticosteroid agents) and is most commonly used with a prostaglandin analogue, today this is usually misoprostol (cytotec)
- ❖ Called RU-486 because it was the 38,486th compound synthesized by Roussel-Uclaf from 1949 to 1980

HISTORY CONT.

❖ When other countries approved Mife:

- **1991 Great Britain** (United Kingdom)
- 1992 Sweden
- 1999 Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Israel
- **2000 United States**, Norway, Russia, Ukraine
- 2001 Serbia, Montenegro, Taiwan, South Africa, Tunisia
- 2002 Belarus, Latvia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, India
- 2003 Estonia

HISTORY CONT.

❖ Other approvals

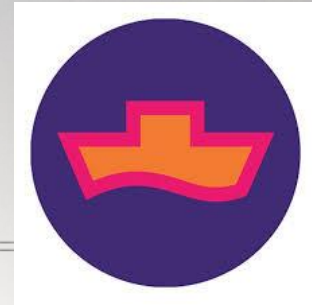
- 2004 Moldova, Guyana
- 2005 Albania, Hungary, Mongolia
- **2006 Australia**
- 2007 Portugal, Armenia
- 2008 Romania
- **2009 Italy** amid strong protests from the Vatican
- 2013 Bulgaria, Czech Republic and Slovenia

❖ It is on the WHO (World Health Organization) list of Essential Medications

HISTORY CONT.

- ❖ In the United States it is approved up to 70 days gestation
- ❖ In Europe it is approved up to 63 days gestation
- ❖ At WHOL it is used to 63 days, which is now standard protocol across Canada since Nov. 2017

HISTORY CONT.



❖ RU486 is **not** approved in Ireland, Poland, or a variety of other countries where abortion is either illegal or highly restricted.

❖ Map of abortion access around the world

<https://www.womenonwaves.org/en/map/country>

❖ Women on waves <https://www.womenonwaves.org/>

❖ Women on web <https://www.womenonweb.org/>

RU 486 AS A MORNING AFTER PILL

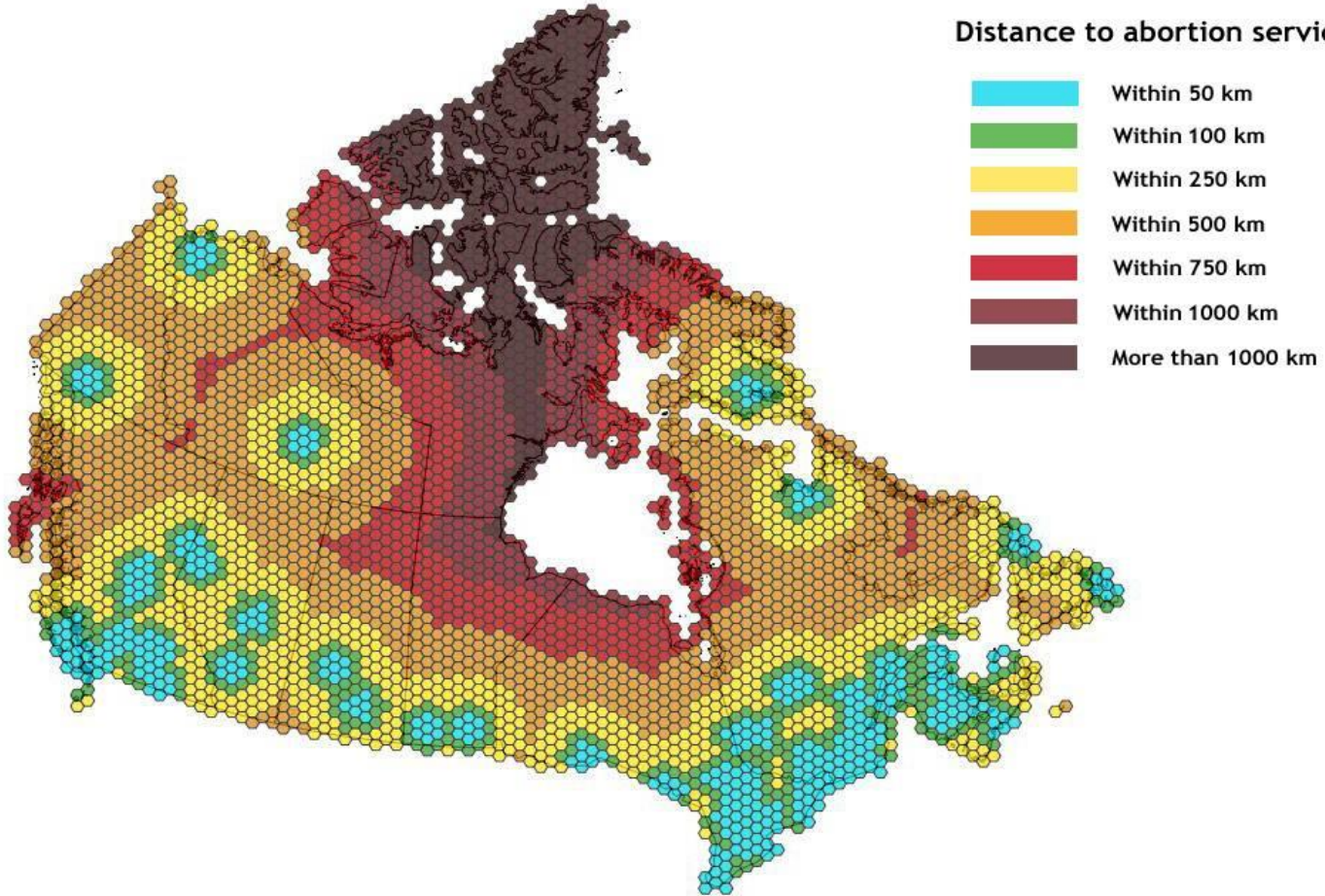
❖ In China, low dose mifepristone tablets (MAP) are available directly from a pharmacist without a prescription and regular dose is available from a pharmacist with a prescription in China.

❖ Low dose mifepristone tablets for emergency contraception are also available by prescription in Armenia, Russia, Ukraine, and Vietnam.

CANADIAN HISTORY

- ❖ Mifepristone was approved by Health Canada in 2015 but only became available in January 2017
- ❖ Until 2017 medical abortions were done in Canada with methotrexate and misoprostol which has a higher failure rate than mifegymiso

Distance to abortion services



COMMON SIDE EFFECTS/COMPLICATIONS

- ❖ Abdominal pain & cramps
- ❖ Feeling tired, fatigue, dizziness, & fainting
- ❖ Fever, chills, hot flushes, & headaches
- ❖ Nausea, vomiting, & diarrhea
- ❖ Vaginal bleeding. BUT if heavy vaginal bleeding (soaking 3 pads in one hour or one pad an hour for 3 hours) seek immediate medical care
- ❖ These side effects may continue for a few days



USE MIFE WITH CAUTION

❖ If you are:

- Breastfeeding
- Taking insulin
- Underweight/Malnourished
- A heavy smoker **and** over 35 years of age

❖ If there is a lack of access to emergency care for the next 14 days



USE MIFE WITH CAUTION CONT.

❖ If you regularly use or use over the long term:

- Corticosteroids for asthma or other conditions
- Anticoagulants for a bleeding disorder
- Blood thinner, like coumadin

RARE / UNCOMMON SIDE EFFECTS

- ❖ Endometritis - infection in uterine lining
- ❖ Hemorrhagic shock
- ❖ Hypotension (only seek help if severe)
- ❖ Body infection or skin rash
- ❖ Anaphylactic shock or angioedema
- ❖ Toxic shock syndrome
- ❖ Asthma or bronchospasm
- ❖ Severe skin reaction



CONTRAINDICATIONS

- ❖ No ultrasound to confirm under 63 days of pregnancy
- ❖ Ectopic pregnancy
- ❖ IUD in uterus (must be removed first, then mife can be used)
- ❖ Allergy to either medication
- ❖ Uncontrolled asthma
- ❖ Uncontrolled seizures

CONTRAINDICATIONS CONT.

- ❖ Severe Anemia
- ❖ Inherited porphyria (blood disorder that causes skin symptoms as a result of oversensitivity to sunlight)
- ❖ Disorders of the adrenal gland, liver, heart, kidney, high blood pressure, sickle cell anemia, or cardiovascular disease

INTERACTIONS WITH MIFE

❖ While using Mifegymiso do not use the following:

- Drugs that treat fungal infections like ketoconazole or itraconazole
- Corticosteroids
- Grapefruit and grapefruit juice
- Any herbal supplement containing St. John's Wort
- Erythromycin
- Dexamethasone, anticonvulsants like phenobarbital, phenytoin, or carbamazepine, and rifampin., CYP 3A4 substrates, or some drugs used in general anaesthesia

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