

Consumer Protection: Patient Safety and Consent

As with any medical procedure, you have a right to know all of the risks and any other information that might affect your decision to have an abortion. However, if you don't ask for this information you may forfeit that right.

Here are some important issues you will want to discuss before you sign the doctor's consent form.

1.) Will it hurt?

2.) What options and supportive services are available to me if I choose to not abort?

3.) What is the fetus like right now? What can it do? What can it feel?

4.) What are the chances that I will experience any of the following problems?

Physical

- Retained Products of Conception
- Damage to the Cervix
- Hemorrhage
- Infection
- Perforation of the Uterus
- Sterility
- Complications of Future Pregnancies

Psychological

- Depression
- Anniversary Syndrome
- Sexual Dysfunction
- Suicidal Thoughts
- Interference with
Personal Relationships

5.) Will you treat me for complications?

6.) If I need to be hospitalized, at which hospital do you have privileges?
