

Post-module assignment

The government of India enacted the **Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act** in 1971 to terminate certain pregnancies upto 20 weeks of gestational period. MTP act made abortion legal in India. The MTP act amendment bill has been passed in the lower house of the parliament. In the amendment 2020, the abortion has been legalised upto 24 weeks in the cases of sexual violence and foetal abnormalities. So, I will suggest my friend to opt for safe abortion service. Although the service is available, it is highly stigmatised. Dialogue and advocacy for the same is required. With the module 1, I have learnt that there are two types of abortion- medical and surgical abortion. Medical abortion is associated with uptake of pills and expelling out the embryo/foetus via hormonal pills, while surgical abortion is associated with vacuum and dilation of vagina and thereby cleaning the foetus. I will suggest my friend to opt for either service. Now, she also needs to understand that abortion is highly stigmatised which has led to the fear about the repercussions of the process. Safe abortion does not lead to any health complications rather it prevents it. The surgical abortion shall be performed by a trained medical practitioner and certainly quacks are not a safe choice, as **unsafe abortions** may lead to health complications like sepsis, infertility, and even can be fatal. Unsafe abortions can be dangerous for an individual and completely violates the right to health of that person. Every individual is entitled to have access to safe services related to health therefore, we need advocacy, behaviour change, increased awareness about the abortion services in order to destigmatise abortion.