



2 June 2020

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Response to a request for official information

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your request for official information received 25 May 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information:

- 1. A copy of any guidelines of your DHB which relate to referral for women for consideration of first, second or third trimester abortions, including any guidelines operative before or after the enactment of the Abortion Legislation Act 2020.**
- 2. If your DHB has no such guidelines advise.**

NMH utilises the attached Termination of Pregnancy (TOP) clinical guidelines for referrers, as published on our *HealthPathways* online information portal.

Due to the changes in legislation we are redeveloping our service, in consultation with various stakeholders including General Practitioners. The health pathways will continue to be updated as our service evolves.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602.

If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz I trust that this information meets your requirements. NMH, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'P Bramley'.

Dr Peter Bramley
Chief Executive

Encl: Nelson Marlborough *HealthPathways* clinical guidelines for Termination of Pregnancy

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

HealthPathways

Termination of Pregnancy (TOP)

COVID-19 note

- Refer via usual channels
- STI swabs are not required unless woman considered high risk for chlamydia
- A dating scan is still required
- A blood group is only required if > 10 weeks gestation

Last updated: 14 April 2020

Assessment

1. Positive pregnancy test with unwanted pregnancy.
2. Determine gestation by dates and/or ultrasound.
3. Discuss all options for pregnancy e.g., continuation, adoption, termination of pregnancy (medical or surgical). See Patient Information below for more information regarding options.
4. If the patient is undecided about termination, refer for [+ counselling](#). This is particularly advised if the patient is considering medical termination.
5. If the patient wishes to be referred for termination, carry out these investigations:
 - First antenatal bloods including HIV (minimum requirement is blood group, but no need to repeat if already known)
 - STI screen – endocervical swab, HVS, chlamydia (minimum requirement is urine chlamydia)
 - Cervical smear if indicated (> 3 years since last smear, or first smear in woman aged > 20 years)
 - [+ MRSA swab if indicated](#)
6. Arrange a dating ultrasound using 'CT' as the [+ scan code](#):
 - Nelson – [+ refer privately](#).
 - Marlborough – refer to Wairau Hospital Radiology, phone **(03) 520-9910**. There is no part charge.


Management

1. If IUCD in situ, remove if strings are visible.
2. If medical termination is requested and patient is < 9 weeks gestation – refer to obstetrician or first certifying consultant as below.
3. For surgical termination < 12 weeks gestation – refer to obstetrician or first certifying consultant as below.
4. If > 12 weeks – discuss need for medical termination of pregnancy out of district and refer as below.
5. Discuss and/or organise [+ post termination of pregnancy contraception](#).
6. Follow up after termination of pregnancy.


Request

If < 12 weeks (or < 9 weeks for medical termination)

Nelson:

- All Nelson TOPs are now provided via Nelson Hospital gynaecology clinic. Phone **(03) 546-1560** with the patient present to arrange an appointment.
- Alternatively, first referrals may be made to the following first certifying consultants in the community: Dr Heidi Mayer, Dr Deborah Morris, or Dr Sophie Mace, at Greenwood Health, Motueka, phone **(03) 528-8866**.
- Follow your phone call with a referral letter via ERMS or fax, including the ultrasound report and all [+ relevant information](#):
 -  ERMS: Gynaecology > Termination of Pregnancy.
 - Nelson Hospital gynaecology clinic fax **(03) 546-1494**.
 - Greenwood Health fax **(03) 528-6331**.

Marlborough:

- First referrals should be made to the first certifying consultant in the community e.g., Dr Ian Bryce, Dr Ros Gellatly or Dr Rhondda Turner, Civic Family Health, phone **(03) 578-0199**, or fax **(03) 577-6727**, or  ERMS: Gynaecology > Termination of Pregnancy.

If > 12 weeks

- Refer for second trimester medical TOP at the [Te Mahoe Unit](#) at Wellington Hospital, phone **(04) 806-0761**.
 - Complete the [Te Mahoe Unit referral form](#)
 - Make a simultaneous referral to NMDHB Pregnancy Options Counselling. This is a requirement from Te Mahoe and enables DHB-funded transport to Wellington to be arranged.
 - Complete the NMDHB Pregnancy Options Counselling referral form for [Nelson](#) or [Marlborough](#), or refer via ERMS: Gynaecology > Pregnancy Counselling Referral.

Information[+ Clinical Resources](#)[+ Patient Information](#)

Page Information

Information about this HealthPathways document (34755):

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Have you read the disclaimer?

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