

# Termination of Pregnancy Prescribed Information Reporting Requirements

## Introduction

Section 17 of the *Termination of Pregnancy Law Reform Act* (the Act) requires medical practitioners who perform or direct the performance of a termination of pregnancy to provide the Northern Territory Chief Health Officer with prescribed information within the timeframe set by regulation. Part 4 of the *Termination of Pregnancy Law Reform Regulations* (the Regulations) sets out the prescribed information which must be provided and the timeframes for provision.

## Prescribed information

The Regulations require the following information to be provided to the Chief Health Officer:

- the date of birth of the woman or pregnant person
- gestational age (weeks/days)
- the date the termination was performed or initiated through the administration of a prescription for early medical termination of pregnancy (EMToP)
- the method of termination
- the region of woman or pregnant person's usual residence (based on local government areas and the Termination of Pregnancy Regions for Prescribed Information Reporting Fact Sheet).
- the full name and provider number of the medical practitioner initiating or performing the termination
- the full name and provider number of the second medical practitioner consulted for post 24 week termination of pregnancy
- the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status of the woman or pregnant person
- the location where the termination was initiated (for early medical terminations) or performed (for surgical terminations)
- the name of the facility (post 9 weeks)
- whether the termination was initiated or performed in an emergency situation (under section 10 of the Act)
- that a follow up appointment was made.

The prescribed information does not enable identification of the women or pregnant person who had a termination.

## Reporting process

Medical Practitioners who have initiated or performed a medical termination must report the prescribed information through the [NT Health Termination of Pregnancy Prescribed Information Reporting eForm](#).

For assistance or questions on completing the e-form contact:

E: [WomensHealth.DoH@nt.gov.au](mailto:WomensHealth.DoH@nt.gov.au)

T: (08) 8985 8018

## Reporting timeframes

For **early medical terminations** reporting must be completed within 28 days of the medical practitioner's last consultation with the woman. This may be the consultation at which the medical practitioner prescribed the drugs, or at a later consultation, for example a follow-up appointment after the termination was performed.

For **surgical terminations** reporting must be completed within 28 days of performance of the termination.

If the woman does not return for a follow up appointment and cannot be contacted, the medical practitioner is to use the last consultation with the woman as the date from when the 28 days is counted. It will therefore be necessary to carefully monitor the time for reporting to the Chief Health Officer.

For any other termination (for example a combination of medical and surgical) – within 28 days after performance of termination.

## Penalties

The Regulations set out penalties for failure to provide prescribed information within the prescribed time. A penalty will not be incurred if a reasonable explanation can be provided.

The penalty for not providing prescribed information within the prescribed time is 20 penalty units. See the Penalty Units Act 2009 or visit the webpage for information on the value of penalty units.

## What is the purpose of collecting prescribed information?

The prescribed information is collected and quality checked as part of the framework established to ensure the safety of women and pregnant people when undertaking termination of pregnancy and to assist with planning future sexual and reproductive health initiatives for women in the Northern Territory.

## What happens to the reported prescribed information?

The Northern Territory Chief Health Officer is the data custodian for termination of pregnancy prescribed information. The information is managed by NT Health which has responsibility to ensure the protection and confidentiality of data as it applies to all other health information collected for health related purposes.