

## Kevin Duffy

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**From:** David.Mcllinney@gov.scot on behalf of AbortionConsultation@gov.scot  
**Sent:** 23 June 2021 11:34 AM  
**To:** Undisclosed recipients:  
**Subject:** Early Medical Abortion At Home - response to the consultation

Good morning,

Thank you for responding to the Scottish Government Consultation on Future Arrangements for Early Medical Abortion at Home. An independent analysis of the consultation responses has been published today and can be found at <https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781800048560>.

The report shows very differing views among respondents, particularly in relation to whether the current approach is sufficiently safe. In recognition of this, and in order to ensure robust evidence is available, the Scottish Government has confirmed today that it is taking steps to commission an independent evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the current approach, including in relation to safety. Scottish Ministers will consider future arrangements once this evaluation has been completed.

The current March 2020 approval will remain in place while this evaluation is undertaken. This will continue to allow patients to take both mifepristone and misoprostol at home (following a telephone or video consultation) while coronavirus continues to pose a serious and imminent threat to public health in Scotland and a doctor, or a nurse under the direction of a doctor, considers that it is not advisable or possible for the person to attend a clinic. In line with the Scottish Abortion Care Providers guidelines, both drugs should only be taken at home where it is considered clinically appropriate for the patient, and where the patient wishes to do so.

Kind regards

David McIlhinney  
Policy Officer - Donation and Abortion Policy

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