

Legal termination of pregnancy at the Kenyatta National Hospital using prostaglandin F2 alpha in mid trimester.

Rogo, Khama O; Nyamu, JM

Date: 1989

Abstract:

This study describes 58 cases of legal termination of pregnancy done in the acute gynecology ward, Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH), Nairobi, over a 4 year period. The ward handles 20-40 new cases of incomplete abortion daily. Patients in the midtrimester received extra-amniotic or inter-amniotic prostaglandins (PGF2 alpha). Most of the patients were young, single and prim gravid. Most terminations were requested for on psychosocial grounds. The mean induction-delivery time with PGF2 alpha was 16.6 hours. Age, parity and gestation influenced this interval. The mean hospital stay was 3-5 days. Minor complications were recorded in 19.2% of the patients. Instillation of PGF2 alpha, particularly by extra-amniotic route seems to be safe and sufficient in our environment. It is recommended for use in developing countries.