

Open letter to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) from the [Abortion On Our Own Terms campaign](#) in support of advance provision of abortion pills:

Clinicians routinely prescribe medications in advance to help their patients avoid delays in starting treatment; [abortion pills should not be an exception](#). Let's be clear: abortion pills are safe and effective, and we should be making it easier to get them in the hands of people who want them. The FDA, itself, acknowledges that people can safely use abortion pills prescribed after a telehealth appointment, so why shouldn't we have the option to have abortion pills on hand in case we need them? Criticism of advance provision of abortion pills by clinicians—who are offering evidence-based health care options—is yet another example of regulators treating abortion differently from other types of health care. As politicians across the country work to take medical decisions away from us, the FDA should be working around the clock to ensure everyone has access to all reproductive health care no matter who they are or where they live.

The Abortion On Our Own Terms campaign believes that abortion pills should be available to anyone who needs them and supports advance provision of abortion pills and any other policy that removes barriers to access. Putting pills in people's hands in advance, whether prescribed by a provider or obtained from other sources and self-managed with the support system of their choosing, ensures greater access.

Recently released research confirms that people are [more interested than ever](#) in self-managing their abortions with pills. Some face extreme abortion bans in their home states triggered by the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. Others want the power and control to have abortions on their own terms, according to their needs, schedule, and lives. Science and [research](#) affirm that when people have accurate information and access to abortion pills, they [can self-manage their abortions safely and effectively](#) outside the formal health care system, with the support of family and loved ones. Our communities are in crisis, but we always have, and always will care for ourselves, our families and our communities. Now is the time to increase access to essential, life-saving medication—not criticize clinicians who are following the science and finding ways to support the needs of their patients.