

NEWS

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More than 5,000 women bought abortion pills online in the past five years

The results were published in an international journal today



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14:55 17 Oct 2016
Fionnuala Jones
1 hour ago

Just over 5,600 women accessed abortion pills online in the last five years, according to a new study published today.



The British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (BJOG (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1471-0528.14401/full>)) (https://mail.fmjunction.ie/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=c-1g9NWFDA31WMxEMIZ4b8ktKUJ0MFqY_beo8lTo1CKZShzkPbTCGgAdAB0AHAAOgAvAC8AbwBuAGwAaQBuAGUAbABpAGIAcgbBhAHIAeQAuAHcAaQBsAGUAeQAuAGMAbwBtAC8AZABvAGkALwAxADAA LgAxADEAMQAxAC8AMQA0ADcAMQAtADAANQAYADgALgAxADQANAawADEALwBmAHUAbABsAA..&)

On Air:

URI = http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1471-0528.14401/full reports that 94% of women who availed of the service from Women on Web, a telemedicine service based in the Netherlands.

Among women completing early medical at-home abortion, 97 percent felt they made the right choice and 98 percent would recommend it to others in a similar situation.

Women noted the negative experiences were the mental stress caused by pregnancies they did not want or felt they could not continue, and the stigma caused by current restrictive abortion laws.

“Women in Ireland and Northern Ireland accessing medical abortion through online telemedicine report overwhelmingly positive benefits for health, well-being, and autonomy,” author of the Abigail R.A. Aiken said. “This examination and subsequent findings provide a new evidence to inform the policy debate surrounding abortion laws in Ireland and Northern Ireland.”

Paul Cullen, health correspondent for The Irish Times, referred to the figures as "stark", adding that 1.7% of women said they needed to have an abortion after being raped.

The inaugural meeting of the Citizens' Assembly has decided to hold four weekend-long meetings on the constitutional restrictions on abortion before submitting a report to legislators.

The study was published online first in the British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, which you can access here (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1471-0528.14401/full>).

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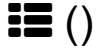
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