

Counseling the Postabortion Client:

A Training Curriculum

© 2003 EngenderHealth. All rights reserved.
440 Ninth Avenue
New York, NY 10001 U.S.A.
Telephone: 212-561-8000
Fax: 212-561-8067
e-mail: info@engenderhealth.org
www.engenderhealth.org

This publication was made possible, in part, through support provided by the Office of Population, U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), under the terms of cooperative agreement HRN-A-00-98-00042-00. The preparation of this publication also was supported by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The opinions expressed herein are those of the publisher and do not necessarily reflect the views of AID or The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

Printing: Automated Graphics Systems, Inc.

ISBN 1-885063-32-6

Printed in the United States of America. Printed on recycled paper.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Counseling the postabortion client: a training curriculum / EngenderHealth.
p. ; cm.

ISBN 1-885063-32-6

1. Abortion—Psychological aspects—Outlines, syllabi, etc. 2. Abortion counseling--Outlines, syllabi, etc. I. EngenderHealth (Firm)
[DNLM: 1. Abortion, Induced—psychology—Outlines. 2. Abortion, Spontaneous—psychology—Outlines. 3. Counseling—methods—Outlines. 4. Aftercare—methods—Outlines. 5. Teaching Materials. WQ 18.2 C855 2002]
RG734 .C68 2002
615.8'8'019—dc21

2002029719

Acknowledgments	v
Introduction for the Trainers	1
Course Overview	1
The Training Curriculum	2
Training Materials, Supplies, and Equipment	4
How to Use These Materials	5
Evaluation	7
Advance Preparation	8
During the Training Course	9
Special Considerations for Settings Where Abortion Is Legal	11
At the End of the Training Course	12
After the Training Course	12
Session 1: Opening Session	15
Part A: Opening Ceremony	16
Part B: Workshop Introduction	17
Session 1 Handouts	19
Session 2: Values and Attitudes Related to Postabortion Care	23
Session 2 Handouts	29
Session 3: Understanding the Client's Perspective	33
Part A: Developing Case Studies of Postabortion Clients	35
Part B: Confidentiality, Privacy, and Dignity	39
Part C: Addressing the Postabortion Client's Feelings	40
Part D: Gender Issues	43
Part E: Sexuality Issues	45
Session 3 Handouts	49
Session 4: Interpersonal Communication	55
Part A: Two-Way Communication	57
Part B: Verbal and Nonverbal Communication	58
Part C: Effective Listening	59
Part D: Asking Open-Ended Questions	60
Part E: Using Simple Language and Visual Aids	62
Session 4 Handouts	65
Session 5: Family Planning Information and Counseling for the Postabortion Client	75
Part A: Rationale	77
Part B: Informed Choice	78
Part C: Individual Factors	80
Session 5 Handouts	83

CONTENTS

Session 6: Related Reproductive Health Needs and Other Issues	95
Part A: RTI/STI Information for the Postabortion Client	97
Part B: Referring Clients for Other Services	99
Part C: Threatened Abortion	101
Session 6 Handouts	103
Session 7: Postabortion Counseling	111
Part A: Overview of Postabortion Counseling	113
Part B: Preprocedure Counseling	114
Part C: Being Supportive during the Procedure	118
Part D: Counseling after the Procedure	120
Session 7 Handouts	123
Session 8: Clinical Practicum	137
Session 8 Handouts	141
Session 9: Workshop Wrap-Up	147
Appendixes	149
Appendix A: Training Outline	151
Appendix B: Pretest/Posttest on Postabortion Counseling	155
Appendix C: Transparencies and Activity Materials	163
Appendix D: Sample Case Studies	175
Appendix E: The Female and Male Reproductive Systems	183
Appendix F: Additional Trainer’s Resources	185
Appendix G: Sample Client-Education Material	187
Appendix H: Workshop Evaluation Form	189

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A number of EngenderHealth staff members and consultants contributed to the development and production of this curriculum. The background literature review, needs assessments in four countries, and writing were carried out by EngenderHealth staff Jill Tabbutt-Henry and Kristina Graff and by consultant Ninuk Widyantoro. Development, testing, evaluation, revision, production, and dissemination of the curriculum were co-managed by Kristina Graff and Lorelei Goodyear, with the assistance of Josephine Ventunelli (all EngenderHealth staff).

EngenderHealth would like to thank the following institutions that participated in the needs assessments for this curriculum: Harapan Kita Hospital (Jakarta, Indonesia), Serang District Hospital (Java Province, Indonesia), Puskesmas Kragilan (Java Province, Indonesia), Maternidad Rafael Calvo (Cartagena, Colombia), Hospital General de Medellín (Medellín, Colombia), Oriéntame (Bogotá, Colombia), King George Medical College (Lucknow, India), Surya clinics (Patna, India), Zeynep Kamil Maternity and Children's Hospital (Istanbul, Turkey), Haseki Training Hospital (Istanbul, Turkey), and Çapa Women and Child Health Training and Research Unit (Istanbul, Turkey).

The observations and the interviews with providers and clients conducted within the needs-assessment sites offered invaluable insights into the counseling needs of postabortion clients and into providers' and administrators' service-delivery realities. We extend our utmost gratitude to the participating individuals, institutions, and ministries of health for supporting our efforts and enabling us to gather this critical perspective.

Field tests of the curriculum were conducted in Bangladesh, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Kenya, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Uganda. The feedback provided by participants, observers, and trainers during and after field tests was extremely helpful in revisions to the curriculum structure and content. We offer special thanks to EngenderHealth field and regional staff and their local counterparts within the aforementioned countries for planning and implementing these training events.

EngenderHealth would also like to thank a number of EngenderHealth staff for their input on the curriculum in its draft and final versions; all were with the agency when the curriculum was written. They are: Dr. Jean Ahlborg, Dr. Mark Barone, Dr. Ellen Bautista, Julie Becker, Sally Girvin, Dr. Edward Tandingan, and Peter Twyman. Special thanks go to EngenderHealth's Dominican Republic and Philippines programs, whose postabortion counseling materials have been adapted for use within this manual. Also, EngenderHealth thanks David Rosenzweig, who developed the human body diagrams used in Handout 4-D and Appendix E, and Ahmad Fauzi, who created the illustrations used in Handout 7-G.

Karen Landovitz oversaw publication of the curriculum. Michael Klitsch edited the curriculum. Virginia Taddoni designed the cover and interior. Margaret Scanlon proofread the text. Anna Kurica managed final production. Josephine Ventunelli managed the dissemination of the curriculum.

