

What We Know & What We Need to Know:

ABORTION IN OUR WATER

This chart sets forth the known and unknown harms associated with the FDA’s approval of the chemical abortion pill and the instructions by abortion providers to pregnant mothers to flush fetal remains down the toilet

What We Know	What We Need to Know
During the original approval process for the abortion pill, the FDA failed to consider how fetal remains would be disposed of, a violation of both the Clean Water Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. It likewise failed to consider the possible adverse effects that active mifepristone metabolites may have on animal and human health over time, even if in trace amounts.	The actual environmental impact of abortion pill metabolites and related byproducts (human remains) entering our water systems.
A conservative estimate suggests 700,000 babies were flushed into our sewer systems in 2024—this is only likely to increase. Many women regret their decision upon seeing a recognizable baby in their toilet.	Whether Congress will take urgent action to ensure women are fully informed of the effects of chemical abortion, including the likelihood of seeing a “fully formed fetus” floating in the toilet.
Mifepristone forms active metabolites which may enter our wastewater systems via excretion, and most wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove them—meaning active abortion pill components are likely entering our water supply.	Whether and the extent to which mifepristone metabolites are in our drinking water supply.
Conventional drinking water filtration processes fail to remove all pharmaceutical contaminants—meaning it is very possible that mifepristone metabolites are in our drinking water.	Whether and the extent to which mifepristone metabolites are in our drinking water.
Other pharmaceutical contaminants present in the water supply are known to cause harm to aquatic wildlife, even in low concentrations.	Whether exposure to mifepristone metabolites at any level can cause adverse effects on aquatic or other wildlife and related ecosystems.
The abortion pill acts as an endocrine disruptor. Other potential endocrine-disrupting chemicals found in our water, PFAS, are known to cause harm to humans over time even at low levels, and two of them are now regulated by the EPA.	At what level of exposure can mifepristone metabolites cause adverse effects on human health over time.
Medical waste regulations and guidelines generally prohibit disposing of medical and pathological waste into the sewer system—yet abortion providers evade these guidelines on a daily basis.	Whether the FDA will take action to ensure its approval for the use of mifepristone outlines a means for proper disposal of medical waste, forcing abortion providers to cease their violation of state medical waste disposal laws and regulations.

For more information contact:

AbortionInOurWater.org