Reviewer’s report

Title: Implementation of Mifepristone Medical Abortion in Canada: Pilot and Feasibility Testing of a Survey to Assess Facilitators and Barriers

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Reviewer: Melissa Kang

Reviewer's report:

This paper describes the development of a survey instrument that will be used to evaluate the implementation of medical abortion in Canada. It is the first part of a multi-stage research program which will examine barriers and facilitators to implementation of the newly approved combination medication for medical abortion.

The paper is well written and easy to follow. The design and methodology of this part of the larger project are well described and sound, and the application of theoretical frameworks is impressive.

In the Background, it would be helpful to provide brief information about the Canadian context for an international audience - does the population who might seek medical abortion access primary care initially or are they able/ would they choose to access OBGYNs? What would their expectations within the Canadian health system be for information, advice and referral/provision of not only medical abortion, but reproductive health care?

Could the number of induced abortions reported in the Background (100,000) be expressed as a rate?

Background, third paragraph - re Australian legislation, while this statement is not incorrect, abortion has been removed from the criminal code in all but one jurisdiction (with various limits and restrictions): this website has a good summary
https://www.childrenbychoice.org.au/factsandfigures/australianabortionlawandpractice

Methods page 12 of 29, middle paragraph - ‘...panelists suggested to include questions related to patient satisfaction...’. While questions on this theme were not included, is there scope in the broader study to consider or incorporate consumer perspectives? (Or can this be mentioned in the discussion?) Given the doctor-patient relationship is a dynamic one, one would imagine that implementation of a new technology and service needs to consider the group for whom the new technology is targeting, and physicians would be sensitive to this.

Results (page 14 of 29, second line of first paragraph - ?missing word, for clarity '…previous abortion *provision* experience' (?)

Results page 17 of 29 - Physicians dispensing the medication (and Background page 4 of 29). I assume
that this regulation is highly irregular and does not apply to any other prescription pharmaceutical product?

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