

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation Religion King



(Logo)
Ministry of Health
No. 037 អបស/បព

PRAKAS
On
Instructions for Implementing the Law on Abortion

The Senior Minister, Minister of Health

Pursuant to

- The Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia;
- Royal Decree No. NS/RD/1196/72, dated November 30, 1996, on the Appointment of the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia;
- Royal *Kram* No. NS/RK/0196/06, dated January 24, 1996, promulgating the Law on the Establishment of the Ministry of Health;
- Law on Abortion promulgated by Royal *Kram* No. CS/RK/1197/06, dated November 12, 1997;
- Subdecree No. 67 S., dated October 22, 1997, on the Organization and Functioning of the Ministry of Health;
- Necessity of the Ministry of Health;

Hereby decides:

Article 1

The *prakas* herewith aims at giving instructions on technical specifications in order to implement the provisions as stipulated by the Law on Abortion.

Technical conditions

Article 2

Doctors or registered physicians or registered midwives can perform abortions only if they receive proper training with certificates for their courses from the Ministry of Health and authorization from the Ministry of Health;

That training shall be carried out according the clinic protocols of the Ministry of Health focusing on:

- Technical skills to do abortions;
- Emergency treatment for various consequences;
- Examination of women's health condition in support of the abortion;
- Counseling for the person concerned;

Article 3

Prior to deciding to perform any abortion, service providers shall pay attention to health problems as specified in the clinic protocol about:

- Serious bacterial infection in the pelvis
- Serious diabetes;
- Jaundice;
- Placenta previa.

Article 4

Consultation for person to undergo abortion shall include the following:

- Clear explanation about the disadvantages of abortion;
- Providing advice about the advantages of birth spacing service and available birth spacing methods as well as helping women receive birth spacing methods;
- Following the abortion, women must know about a number of symptoms requiring immediate care such as high temperature, cold, muscle pain, stomachache or backache, tight abdomen, copious and ongoing hemorrhage, vaginal discharge with an odor, menstrual flow lasting for six weeks or more, vomiting;

Article 5

During each abortion, the person to undergo abortion shall make a written pledge with signature or thumbprint of the person concerned and the persons concerned according to each case as specified in Article 8 of the Law of Abortion;

Article 6

An abortion shall be determined according to the conditions specified in Article 8 of the this law and shall conform to the methods as specified in the clinic protocol of the Ministry of Health;

Reporting

Article 7

Public and private unit chiefs responsible for the abortion shall prepare clear documents about each abortion and shall make monthly reports to the Ministry of Health's Department of Hospitals on a regular basis about the number of aborted fetus under the [gestation] age of 12 weeks and the number of aborted fetus above the age of 12 weeks, abortion method, age of each customer and emergency cases to be referred to hospitals as well as the reasons for referring to hospitals without giving the names of the clients.

Article 8

The Department of Hospitals of the General Department of Technical Health shall have the duties to examine the public and private abortion services being operated in the Kingdom of Cambodia;

This examination shall be carried out according to the technical conditions set forth in articles 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this *prakas*;

Article 9

Any provisions contrary to the substance of the *prakas* herewith shall be considered null and void;

Article 10

The Cabinet of the Ministry of Health, the General Department of Technical Health, the General Department of Administration and Finance, the General-Inspectorate, the department of hospitals and provincial and city departments of health shall be obliged to effectively honor the *prakas* herewith from the date of signature onwards.

Phnom Penh Capital, August 30, 2002 (*Initials*)

Senior Minister, Minister

(*Signature and stamp*)

Dr. HONG SUN HUOT

CC:

- Ministry of the Royal Palace
- General Secretariat of the Senate
- General Secretariat of the National Assembly
- General Secretariat of the Royal Government
- Cabinet of *Samdech* Prime Minister
- Provincial-city halls
- Royal gazettes
- Records-Archives