

Termination of Pregnancy Act (CHAPTER 324)

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TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY ACT

(CHAPTER 324)

(Original Enactment: Act 24 of 1974)

REVISED EDITION 1985

(30th March 1987)

An Act relating to termination of pregnancy by authorised medical practitioners and for matters connected therewith.

[27th December 1974]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Termination of Pregnancy Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“approved institution” means any institution, hospital, maternity home, clinic or other place for the time being approved by the Minister for the purposes of this Act;

“authorised medical practitioner” means any medical practitioner who is authorised under any regulations made under this Act to carry out treatment to terminate pregnancy;

“Government hospital” means any hospital, maternity home or clinic under the control of the Minister;

“law relating to abortion” means sections 312, 313, 314 and 315 of the Penal Code [Cap. 224];

“medical practitioner” means any person registered under the Medical Registration Act [Cap. 174].

[\[32/80\]](#)

Medical termination of pregnancy

3.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, no person shall be guilty of an offence under the law relating to abortion when a pregnancy is terminated by an authorised medical practitioner acting on the request of a pregnant woman and with her written consent.

(2) Except as provided by section 10, every treatment to terminate pregnancy shall be carried out by an authorised medical practitioner in a Government hospital or in an approved institution.

(3) No treatment to terminate pregnancy shall be carried out by an authorised medical practitioner unless the pregnant woman —

- (a) is a citizen of Singapore or is the wife of a citizen of Singapore;
- (b) is the holder, or is the wife of a holder, of an employment pass or a work permit pass issued under the Immigration Act [Cap. 133]; or
- (c) has been resident in Singapore for a period of at least 4 months immediately preceding the date on which such treatment is to be carried out,

but this subsection shall not apply to any treatment to terminate pregnancy which is immediately necessary to save the life of the pregnant woman.

(4) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both.

[\[32/80\]](#)

Treatment to terminate pregnancy not to be carried out if pregnancy is of more than a certain duration unless in special circumstances

4.—(1) No treatment for the termination of pregnancy shall be carried out —

- (a) if the pregnancy is of more than 24 weeks duration unless the treatment is immediately necessary to save the life or to prevent grave permanent injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman; or
- (b) if the pregnancy is of more than 16 weeks duration but less than 24 weeks duration unless the treatment is carried out by an authorised medical practitioner who —
 - (i) is in possession of such surgical or obstetric qualifications as may be prescribed; or
 - (ii) has acquired special skill in such treatment either in practice or by virtue of holding an appointment in a Government hospital or in an approved institution over such period as may be prescribed.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the duration of the pregnancy shall be calculated from the first day of the last normal menstruation of the pregnant woman to