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**Safeguarding guidance for children and young people under 18 accessing early medical abortion services provided through telemedicine services**

**Organisation:**

**Completed by (and job title):**

**Contact email/phone:**

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| **QUESTION** | **COMMENTS****Please specify the page number when you are describing your comments.** |
| 1. **Document title**

Is the title clear and does it speak to the aims of the work well?If not, please suggest amendments.  | YES |
| 1. **Roles and responsibilities**

Is this section clear to read and does it provide the necessary guidance to support early medical abortion services to be fully integrated in health service planning and delivery? If not, please suggest alternatives. | There is no mention of sexually transmitted infections screening/advice nor of contraception. This is required to provide comprehensive and holistic care and a missed opportunity to make every contact count. |
| 1. **Capacity and consent**

Does this section clearly lay out the current frameworks that are in place to determine capacity and consent for CYP? Is there anything you would add or remove?Please make suggestions. | On occasion CYP may experience parental/family objection to them consenting to EMA. Does this guidance also need a ‘resolving conflict’ guide? |
| 1. **Risk assessments**

Does this section lay out the minimum requirement needed to appropriately risk assess CYP accessing EMA services? Is there anything you would add or remove?Please make suggestions. | The *Think family* and *Contextual safeguarding* methodology needs to apply throughout the document to ensure holistic, place based and thorough risk assessments. |
| 1. **Appropriate safeguarding actions following risk assessment**

Does this guidance adequately balance the need for timely access to EMA for all CYP, and their holistic health and safeguarding needs?Is there anything you would add or remove?Please make suggestions. | ‘Specifically, they need to have an understanding of domestic abuse, adult safeguarding, child sexual abuse and exploitation, trafficking and honour-based violence and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).pg 9’, **forced marriage needs adding to this section and? child criminal abuse?** |
| 1. **Information sharing**

Does this section clearly outline why there is a different approach to information sharing for CYP, compared to adults. Is there anything you would add or remove?Please make suggestions. | YES, though a flow chart may prove more easy to use-Fraser/Gillick reference should be added |
| 1. **Clinical governance**

Is this section clear? Is there anything you would add or remove?Please make suggestions. | Guidance/best practice on how to conduct telemedicine appointments with CYP is required to supplement this guidance, See;[Principles for conducting virtual consultations with children and young people | RCPCH](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/principles-conducting-virtual-consultations-children-young-people)[The Role of Telemedicine in Child and Adolescent Healthcare in India | SpringerLink](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40124-021-00253-w)[The digital future of nursing | eHealth | Royal College of Nursing (rcn.org.uk)](https://www.rcn.org.uk/clinical-topics/ehealth/the-digital-future-of-nursing)[Digital roles | Royal College of Nursing (rcn.org.uk)](https://www.rcn.org.uk/clinical-topics/ehealth/digital-roles-and-innovations/digital-roles#support) |
| 1. **Training and supervision**

Do you agree with the content of this section? Is there anything you would add or remove?Please make suggestions. | **Safeguarding supervision** is a must for all health professionals involved.**Communicating** with children and young people requires a specific skill set. This includes the use of appropriate health literacy with some of our most vulnerable childrenAdditional and specific training and tools are required for health professionals involved i.e * [Children and young people centred communication (mefirst.org.uk)](https://www.mefirst.org.uk/)

[Addressing the Health Literacy needs of children and young people… (mefirst.org.uk)](https://www.mefirst.org.uk/addressing-the-health-literacy-needs-of-children-and-young-people/)* Motivational interviewing

[Motivational interviewing for working with children and families: a conversation – ExChange (exchangewales.org)](https://www.exchangewales.org/motivational-interviewing-for-working-with-children-and-families-a-conversation/)* Brief intervention therapy

[Behaviour change techniques in brief interventions to prevent HIV, STI and unintended pregnancies: A systematic review | PLOS ONE](https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0204088) |
| 1. **Language / style**

Is the language within the document easy to understand, and is it clear?If not, please describe. | YES |
| 1. **Case vignettes**

Would it be helpful to illustrate this guidance with some case examples? Do you have examples to share?  | Yes to vignettesMarie Stopes or similar? able to provideAmy.Bucknall@mariestopes.org.uk**Amy Bucknall RN, BSc, MSc****UK Named Nurse Safeguarding Children and Adults and Speaking Up Guardian****Mob: 07970598287** |
| 1. **Is anything missing from this guidance?**

For example, should there be explicit mention of screening for STIs and contraception advice given after the EMA. What other opportunities are there to support CYPs holistic health and safeguarding needs? | It is important to have CYP appropriate services.The Department of Health ‘Quality criteria for young people friendly health services’, which is referred to as ‘You’re Welcome’, sets out principles to help commissioners and service providers to improve the suitability of NHS and non-NHS health services for young people. Quality criteria for young people friendly health services - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) |

**Many thanks for your assistance – please send completed feedback forms to** health.policy@rcpch.ac.uk **no later than 8am Wednesday 10th August.**