Recommendation: Use of prophylactic antibiotics in safe abortion, including postabortion care

For vacuum aspiration and dilatation and evacuation

Before the procedure, a single dose of:

- Doxycycline 200mg orally, OR
- Azithromycin 500mg orally, OR
- Metronidazole 500mg orally

For medical abortion

Routine prophylactic antibiotics are not recommended.

Women at high risk should be screened for sexually transmitted infections. Women with signs and symptoms of infection should be provided abortion services without delay and receive appropriate antibiotic treatment according to evidence-based regimens. Partners of women with sexually transmitted infection also require treatment.

Reference: Clinical Updates in Reproductive Health, Ipas 2018.

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