

The legalization of abortion in Nepal was important for reducing maternal morbidity; however, women continue to suffer from complications from unsafe abortion. We examined the abortion-seeking behaviors of 527 women presenting for post-abortion care in 2010. We assessed abortion law awareness, sources of information, reasons for choosing methods, and factors associated with abortion method and severity of complications. Two-thirds of women obtained information from friends or chemists, and 51% selected their abortion method due to proximity. Fewer than half knew that abortion was legal. Most women (58%) used oral medication, but <20% knew which medication they ingested. Oral medication was most common among women who did not tell their husbands or anyone else about the abortion, chose a method due to proximity, and were unaware that abortion was legal. Method of induction was not associated with complication severity. Efforts are needed to increase awareness and availability of approved abortion medications.

**Words: 150**