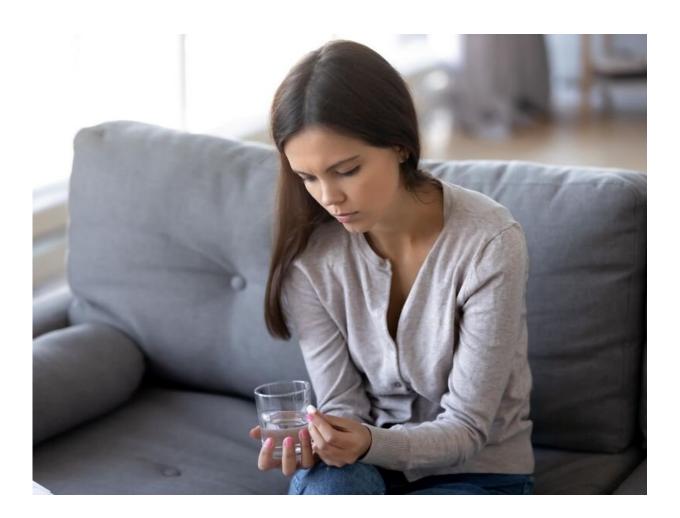


## Facebook, Instagram take down posts offering abortion pills

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Facebook and Instagram have started taking down posts that offer



abortion pills to women who may not be able to get them after the Supreme Court's <u>reversal</u> of Roe v. Wade.

These posts told women how to get <u>abortion pills</u> through the mail even in states that had banned them.

Facebook and Instagram began deleting posts that mentioned abortion pills and specific versions of such pills as <u>mifepristone</u> and <u>misoprostol</u>, the *Associated Press* reported.

These posts also spiked Friday morning on Twitter, Facebook, Reddit and TV broadcasts, according to the media intelligence firm Zignal Labs. By Sunday, Zignal had counted more than 250,000 mentions, the *AP* reported.

Posts for abortion pills on Facebook and Instagram were deleted moments after they appeared, the *AP* noted. A Facebook account was tagged with a "warning," when Facebook said it violated its standards on "guns, animals and other regulated goods."

However, when an *AP* reporter made the exact same post but changed the words "abortion pills" to "a gun," the post remained untouched. The same thing happened to a post to mail "weed," the *AP* said.

Abortion pills can be gotten through the mail after an online consultation from prescribers who have had certification and training.

Meta spokesperson Andy Stone told the *AP* that company policies ban the sale of certain items, including guns, alcohol, drugs and pharmaceuticals.

He did not explain the discrepancies in enforcing that policy, the *AP* said. "We've discovered some instances of incorrect enforcement and are



correcting these," Stone acknowledged.

On Friday, Attorney General Merrick Garland said states should not ban mifepristone.

"States may not ban mifepristone based on disagreement with the FDA's expert judgment about its safety and efficacy," he said in a <u>statement</u>.

Some Republicans have tried to stop their constituents from buying abortion pills through the mail, with West Virginia and Tennessee banning doctors from prescribing the pills via telemedicine, the *AP* reported.

**More information:** Visit the Cleveland Clinic for more on <u>medication</u> <u>abortion</u>.

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