



Christian Voices for Life

Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

Ob-Gyns Need Facts about Abortion and Alternatives



Education: A survey in 2011 reported that while 97% of ob-gyns had encountered patients wanting an abortion, only 14% performed them. (1) The survey also reported that young doctors (age 26-35) are most likely to perform abortions, followed by the oldest doctors (age 56-65). It was suggested that the oldest doctors were motivated to perform abortion because of their experience with the aftereffects of illegal abortions. The vast majority of abortions are now obtained at abortion clinics, or Planned Parenthood, separated from hospitals or doctors who have a general Ob-gyn practice.(2)

So, if your ob-gyn or family practice doctor does not do abortions, why do they need education? Because the vast majority of ob-gyns will encounter patients who want an abortion – or at least who ask about it. Many who ask about abortion may just not know what else to do – what they really need is information about alternative solutions to their problems. Many doctors feel obliged, however, to give referrals to abortion in order to allow the patient her “right to choose”. But certainly a referral implies some measure of approval for that choice. Some doctors may even **advise** abortion when the pregnancy presents a risk to the health of the mother or if the child is diagnosed with a significant handicap (perhaps motivated to reduce their own risk of a malpractice suit). Medical schools do not educate residents on the potentially devastating emotional consequences of abortion, the deceptive or even coercive practices of abortion clinics, or about help that is available with alternatives to abortion. **Doctors who encounter patients who inquire about abortion should be able to refer them to local pregnancy centers**, so their patients can be provided with the information they really need, as well as emotional support. If your friend is debating whether or not to buy a car, would you send them to a car salesman?

1. <http://khn.org/news/study-fewer-doctors-are-offering-abortions/>
2. <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/vstat/vs15/t38.aspx> * “ambulatory surgical centers” are also abortion clinics.



Prayer: Dear Lord, please extend your mercy to the doctors and other clinic workers involved in the abortion industry. Please remove from their hearts and minds any misconceptions they may have that abortion helps women. Give them the courage to face the truth that abortion kills an innocent child, and walk away from their involvement. Help all doctors to be informed about the terrible consequences of abortion and the help that is available for women at pregnancy centers. Help them to be willing and able to refer their patients seeking abortion to real help with alternatives to abortion.



Action: Ask your Ob-gyn or family practice doctor about how he deals with patients who ask about abortion. Tell him that many women don’t want to abort but don’t know what else to do. So many women who do abort deeply regret their decision. Explain that pregnancy centers offer good information, emotional support and practical help with alternatives to abortion, and encourage him to refer patients inquiring about abortion to the local pregnancy center, or to the **Option Line** at **1-800-712-HELP** (24/7, Spanish speakers available) The Option Line can speak to callers right away and refer to the nearest

pregnancy help center anywhere in the country. You can tell the doctor that CVL would happy to supply him doctor with business cards to use in referring patients. If he says he would accept such cards, just [contact us](#) with his name, phone number and address.