
Automated message: Thank you for calling AbortionClinics.org. To make an appointment or to reach a receptionist please press zero.

Respondent: AbortionClinics.org. How can I help you?

Caller: Yeah. I was wondering if you guys do abortions at 26 weeks of pregnancy.

Respondent: We do in Maryland.

Caller: Okay. How much does something like that cost?

Respondent: It just depends on your medical history.

Caller: Okay.

Respondent: Is it for you, hon?

Caller: Yes.

Respondent: Okay. Do you have a history of having any C-sections?

Caller: No.

Respondent: Sorry. Do you have any major medical problems at all?

Caller: No.

Respondent: Is there anything wrong with you or your pregnancy?

Caller: No.

Respondent: What's your height and weight?

Caller: Five three and I'm 165.

Respondent: Okay. And do you know your blood type?

Caller: A positive.

Respondent: Okay. So based on that information at 26 weeks it's \$7,000.00.

Caller: Okay. Well I was just mostly wanting to get some information. I've sort of been going back and forth on my decision. I wanted to see how much it was and if you guys could actually do it. And like are you able to tell me like what the procedure is?

Respondent: Yes. So basically we can see you up until 28 weeks. If there's no medical reason after 28 weeks case by case basis and right now at 26 weeks it's a three-day procedure. The first two days – well the first day you'd be in the clinic. The doctor would do an injection through your abdomen wall into your uterus and into the fetus' heart which would actually stop the heartbeat the first day.

And we also on the first day, first or second day based on your dilating your cervix we insert what's called laminaria. It's an FDA approved seaweed stick. It kind of looks like a small, wooden stick. It sits in your cervix overnight and absorbs body fluid and expands kind of like a tampon will to be able to open your cervix up.

Caller: Uh-huh.

Respondent: And on the last day which would be the third day basically essentially would be induced for labor.

Caller: Oh.

Respondent: And then if you wait until 27 weeks it becomes four days. So first three days are dilation and the last day is the induction.

Caller: Okay. And so when you say labor you mean that's like delivering the baby or –

Respondent: Yes. Essentially it's a still birth.

Caller: Okay. And then do I get pain medication throughout it all or is it like high pain?

Respondent: So we do a cervical block. So we numb your cervix. You also have the option for IV sedation on top of that if you'd like at no additional charge. So it's a conscious sedation meaning that it's what people call twilight drugs. So you're awake for the procedure but you just don't really remember any of it.

Caller: Okay. And then like in terms of the fetus or the baby do they feel pain like when they get the injection or do you know?

Respondent: Research has shown that the digoxin injection into the heart I mean there wouldn't be any pain. It would actually totally stop the heartbeat and then of course there is no pain after that.

Caller: Okay. And then I don't really know much about the development either. Like is the fetus fully developed do you know or at that point?

Respondent: What do you mean fully developed?

Caller: Like do they have – I mean you're saying like it stops the heartbeat.

Respondent: Right.

Caller: I'm just wondering like how developed it is.

Respondent: I mean it's going to be developed but not a viable pregnancy if it was outside of your body at that point in your pregnancy.

Caller: So it wouldn't be able to survive outside the womb?

Respondent: Not when you're 26 weeks, no.

Caller: Okay.

Respondent: Technically it would be 24 weeks pregnant from conception. So the chances of viability would be very slim, but I mean if this is something that you're not sure about I mean you should be talking to your doctor. Have you been seeing a provider?

Caller: No. I sort of – I mean I was but then I dropped off, you know, like a month or two ago. So, you know, you read stuff online and you know you hear different things and so I just thought you guys would know for sure. But do you guys offer like an office consultation like if I wanted to come in and is there a fee for that to actually come in and talk to someone?

Respondent: What do you want to talk to them about exactly?

Caller: Well, you know, just asking questions and making sure I'm confident in my decision. Just might be nice to have someone to talk to.

Respondent: I mean we're not going to do like an option counseling session. That's not necessarily something that we provide. I mean if you want to talk about the actual procedure itself we do do that but there is a charge.

Caller: Okay.

Respondent: I mean we can refer you out to somebody if you'd like to speak to someone about maybe not being sure about your decision.

Caller: Okay. So pretty much I would just come to you guys if I'm 100 percent certain that to have the procedure?

Respondent: Right.

[End of Audio]