**Table 4. Reasons reported in included studies for self-managing an abortion**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Reason for pursuing SMA** | **Number of studies** | **References** |
| *General abortion reasons* | | |
| Financial concerns | 9 | Aiken 2018a, Appiah-Agyekum 2018, Begun 2018, Damalie 2014, Grossman 2018, Mandondo 2018, Pongsatha 2002, Shamala 2019. Tousaw 2017 |
| Continue education | 6 | Berry-Bibee 2015, Damalie 2014, Mandondo 2018, Penfold 2018, Pongsatha 2002 |
| Family complete | 3 | Bhalla 2018, Penfold 2018, Pongsatha 2002, Tousaw 2017 |
| Lack of support from partner | 2 | Belton 2007, Pongsatha 2002 |
|  |  |  |
| *Barriers to clinic access* | | |
| Insurmountable legal restrictions | 7 | Aiken 2019, Aiken 2018b, Alsibiani 2014, Begun 2018, Duarte 2018, Foster 2018, Rominski 2018 |
| Logistical difficulties | 4 | Aiken 2018b, Aiken 2017, Gerdts 2017, Zurbriggen 2018 |
| Inability to pay for an in-clinic abortion | 2 | Aiken 2018a, Naravage 2009 |
| Physician refusal | 2 | Alsibiani 2014, Begun 2018, Duarte 2018, Foster 2018b, Rominski 2017 |
| Lack of knowledge about where to obtain an abortion | 1 | Gerdts 2017 |
|  |  |  |
| *Concerns leading to SMA* | | |
| Privacy and confidentiality | 7 | Aiken 2018b, Gerdts 2017, Hernandez-Rosete 2019, Jilozian 2016, Manriquez 2018, Rominski 2017, Webb 2000 |
| Stigma | 7 | Aiken 2018b, Aiken 2017, Appiah-Agyekum 2018, Begun 2018, Hernandez-Rosete 2019, Rogers 2019, Zurbriggen 2018 |
| Fear that healthcare staff will mistreat you and/or report you to police for abortion | 5 | Berry-Bibee 2015, Bury 2012, DeZordo 2016, Gerdts 2017, Rominski 2017 |
| Fear of violence from partner | 2 | Aiken 2018b, Belton 2007 |
| Prior negative in-clinic experience | 2 | Aiken 2018b, Appiah-Agyekum 2018 |
|  |  |  |
| *Pro-active pursuit of/preference for SMA* | | |
| Ease of use/procurement | 7 | Aiken 2017, Alsibiani 2014, Appiah-Agyekum 2014, Rosing 2000, Ramos 2015, Szwarc 2018, Tousaw 2017 |
| Comfort, privacy, and autonomy | 7 | Aiken 2017, Aiken 2019, Delay 2019, Foster 2018b, Pourette 2018, Ramos 2015, Rogers 2019 |
| Safer/more acceptable than in-clinic care | 6 | Aiken 2019, Delay 2019, Gomperts 2008, Gomperts 2012, Gomperts 2014, Jilozian 2016 |
| Previous successful SMA of friend or family member | 3 | Alsibiani 2014, Rominski 2017, Rosing 2000 |
| More affordable than in-clinic abortion | 2 | Grossman, Webb 2000 |
| Having a support person at home | 3 | Delay 2019, Manriquez 2018, Ramos 2015 |
| Not wanting a surgical abortion | 1 | Jilozian 2016 |
| Previous successful SMA (self) | 1 | Rosing 2000 |