

NIGERIA, 2027

INCLUSIVE GUIDELINE ON ABORTION CARE IN NIGERIA

An SRHR Publication by IGE-SRH

www.ige-srh.org



SRHR IS A HUMAN RIGHT

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) are fundamental human rights inseparable from the rights to life, dignity, equality, and bodily autonomy. Every person, regardless of gender, age, disability, sexuality, or socioeconomic status, deserves access to comprehensive, respectful, and affirming reproductive healthcare. This guideline centers the voices, bodies, and lived experiences of Black women and marginalized communities in Nigeria, affirming that SRHR is not a privilege, it is a right.



IGE-SRH
Initiative for Gender Equality
& Sexual Reproductive Health



PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

This guideline exists to promote equitable, dignified, and rights-based access to quality abortion care for all Nigerians, regardless of age, income, disability, gender identity, or geographic location. We affirm that reproductive autonomy is a fundamental human right, and that no person should be denied safe care due to stigma, discrimination, or structural barriers.

Our objectives: Establish clear, inclusive standards for abortion care delivery across Nigeria. Eliminate discrimination against marginalized persons in healthcare settings. Strengthen legal literacy among communities and providers. Promote accountability, data collection, and rights-affirming policies that center women, girls, and all people seeking care.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

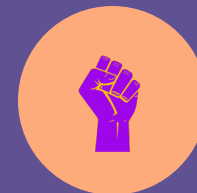
These guiding principles form the ethical and political foundation of the Inclusive Guideline on Abortion Care in Nigeria. They reflect a commitment to centering the dignity, autonomy, and lived experiences of all women and girls especially those most marginalized in every aspect of SRHR policy and practice.



HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH



NON-DISCRIMINATION & EQUITY



GENDER EQUALITY & AUTONOMY



INTERSECTIONALITY & INCLUSION





LEGAL & POLICY CONTEXT

Nigeria's legal framework on abortion and SRHR contains critical gaps. Understanding existing laws, constitutional protections, and policy opportunities is essential for advancing reproductive justice and equitable access to care.

▶ **CRIMINAL CODE & PENAL CODE RESTRICT ABORTION ACCESS BROADLY**

▶ **CONSTITUTION & HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORKS PROTECT BODILY AUTONOMY**

▶ **NATIONAL HEALTH ACT CREATES OPENINGS FOR SAFE CARE PROVISIONS**

▶ **ADVOCACY & REFORM PATHWAYS EXIST AT STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS**





PRIORITY THEMATIC AREAS (1-4)

The Inclusive Guideline on Abortion Care identifies six priority thematic areas to advance SRHR in Nigeria. These areas address the critical gaps in access, dignity, justice, and inclusion that Black women and marginalized persons face in reproductive healthcare settings.

01

**ACCESS TO QUALITY
CARE**

02

**RESPECTFUL
HEALTHCARE**

03

**LEGAL LITERACY AND
JUSTICE**

06

**INCLUSION OF
MARGINALIZED
PERSONS**



PRIORITY AREAS 5-6

Community engagement and social accountability are central to equitable abortion care in Nigeria. Communities must be active partners in shaping services, holding systems accountable, and dismantling stigma. Robust data collection and monitoring ensure that no woman or girl is left behind, and that progress is measurable, transparent, and driven by the lived realities of Black women and marginalized persons.



**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT &
MOBILIZATION**



**SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY
MECHANISMS**



**DATA COLLECTION & RIGHTS-BASED
EVIDENCE**



**MONITORING, EVALUATION & LEARNING
SYSTEMS**





IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Realizing the vision of this guideline requires coordinated action across multiple sectors. Key stakeholders must work in solidarity, each playing a distinct and essential role in advancing equitable, rights-based abortion care for all women and girls in Nigeria.



GOVERNMENT & POLICY ACTORS: FEDERAL, STATE, AND LGA HEALTH MINISTRIES DRIVING POLICY REFORM AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION



HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS & FACILITIES: TRAINED CLINICIANS, MIDWIVES, NURSES, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS DELIVERING RESPECTFUL, QUALITY CARE



CIVIL SOCIETY & FEMINIST ORGANIZATIONS: ADVOCACY, LEGAL SUPPORT, ACCOUNTABILITY MONITORING, AND COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION



COMMUNITIES & AFFECTED PERSONS: WOMEN, GIRLS, AND MARGINALIZED VOICES LEADING SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND DRIVING DEMAND FOR RIGHTS-BASED SERVICES





ACCESS INDICATORS: % OF WOMEN REACHING SAFE, LEGAL ABORTION CARE WITHIN 50KM



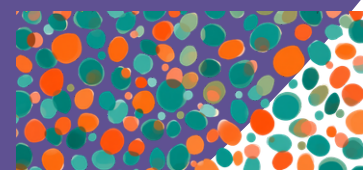
QUALITY & EQUITY METRICS: RESPECTFUL CARE SCORES AND DISAGGREGATED DATA BY GENDER, DISABILITY, AND REGION



ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES: COMMUNITY SCORECARDS, COMPLAINT RESOLUTION RATES, AND POLICY COMPLIANCE AUDITS



REPORTING CYCLES: QUARTERLY COMMUNITY REVIEWS, BIENNIAL STAKEHOLDER ASSESSMENTS, ANNUAL NATIONAL REPORTS



MONITORING & EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

This framework establishes clear, measurable indicators to track progress across all thematic areas. Regular data collection, community-led monitoring, and participatory review processes ensure accountability to women, girls, and marginalized persons in Nigeria's abortion care landscape.



TOGETHER FOR JUSTICE

This guideline is a living commitment to marginalized communities, and to the principle that reproductive rights are human rights. Abortion care is not a privilege; it is a fundamental aspect of bodily autonomy, dignity, and justice. When we center the most marginalized, we build systems that work for everyone. The path forward demands bold action: from policymakers, healthcare providers, civil society, and communities. Together, we dismantle barriers, hold institutions accountable, and build a Nigeria where every person can access safe, respectful, and affirming reproductive healthcare without fear, shame, or discrimination.

Reproductive justice is not achieved in isolation, it is won collectively, in solidarity, across generations, identities, and communities. We rise together.

