Scientific paper raising health concerns about abortion pill mifepristone safety has been retracted, author links found to anti-abortion lobbying group

A scientific paper that raised concerns about the safety of the abortion pill mifepristone was retracted by its publisher [February 5]. The study was cited three times by a federal judge who ruled against mifepristone last spring. That case, which could limit access to mifepristone throughout the country, will soon be heard in the Supreme Court.

The now retracted study used Medicaid claims data to track E.R. visits by patients in the month after having an abortion. The study found a much higher rate of complications than <u>similar studies</u> that have examined abortion safety.

Sage, the publisher of the journal, retracted the study on [February 5] along with two other papers, <u>explaining in a statement</u> that "expert reviewers found that the studies demonstrate a lack of scientific rigor that invalidates or renders unreliable the authors' conclusions."

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It also noted that most of the authors on the paper worked for the Charlotte Lozier Institute, the research arm of anti-abortion lobbying group Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, and that one of the original peer reviewers had also worked for the Lozier Institute.

The Sage journal, *Health Services Research and Managerial Epidemiology*, published all three research articles, which are still available online along with the retraction notice.

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