



VON VOIGTLANDER  
WOMEN'S HOSPITAL  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
HEALTH SYSTEM

# Uterine Aspiration

## When a Small Amount of Tissue Was Obtained

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We only obtained a small quantity of tissue today during your procedure. Therefore, we sent it to a pathology laboratory to be examined under a microscope.

You may also be advised to have a series of special blood tests and a pelvic or vaginal ultrasound examination.

### What will these tests show?

These tests and/or laboratory examination of the pregnancy tissue might show **any** of the following:

1. **You were pregnant**, the aspiration (a surgical or suction abortion) is complete, and everything is all right.
2. **You were not pregnant**. One or more tests used to confirm pregnancy were not accurate. We may conduct another pregnancy test to make sure.
3. **You had a miscarriage before the aspiration**. If you had vaginal bleeding before the procedure, and the amount of tissue removed during your procedure is small, you may have had a complete miscarriage already. You are all right and no further treatment is necessary.
4. **You had an unsuccessful or incomplete aspiration**. You were pregnant, but the abortion procedure was unsuccessful. This could be due to a very small, early pregnancy that was missed or because you have a uterine divider (called a uterine septum). When this is the case, you must receive another procedure similar to the one done today.
5. **Your pregnancy was outside of the uterus** (ectopic pregnancy). There is a possibility that the pregnancy is not in the uterus, and is in a fallopian tube. If so, the pregnancy may break through the wall of the tube and cause serious bleeding in the abdominal cavity. This requires immediate treatment that may

include abdominal surgery, which must be done by a specialist. You will be notified if there is any need for additional treatment or testing.

### **When should I call my doctor or midwife?**

Please call the emergency phone number for your Ob/Gyn doctor or midwife immediately if you have any of the following:

- Severe pain on one side of your lower abdomen
- Shoulder pain
- Fainting and weakness
- A dull, persistent pain in the lower abdomen
- Vomiting
- Urinary or rectal pressure or tenderness
- Pain with sexual intercourse

If you are unable to reach the doctor within thirty minutes, proceed to the nearest hospital emergency room and tell them to check you for a possible ectopic pregnancy.

Please be sure you have left an address and phone number with us where we can reach you.

After office hours, if you develop any of the above symptoms or if you have other questions, you may call the U of M gynecology doctor on-call at 734-936-6267.

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