



## **Medical Management of a Miscarriage**

Once the Consultant Gynaecologist has confirmed that sadly your pregnancy is no longer on going, they will discuss with you and your partner the options that are available. This will enable you to make an informed choice of how you wish to proceed. We understand this may be a very distressing time for you and we are sorry for your loss.

One of the options is medical management of your miscarriage, success rates with this treatment have been reported at 85%. Medical management of a miscarriage is a process like a natural miscarriage and as such involves bleeding and some pain. If you have chosen medical management the treatment consists of taking an oral tablet called Misoprostol. Not all women will be suitable to undertake this method and the circumstances will depend on your clinical condition and the gestation of your pregnancy.

All women who opt for this method of management will be offered an admission to the Early Pregnancy Unit. In some cases if you would prefer not to have to come into hospital and your condition allows, consideration can be given for you to have your medical treatment carried out as an outpatient.

On admission to the unit your observations temperature, pulse and blood pressure will be recorded. We will want to carry out some blood tests including your blood group and a full blood count to ensure that your iron level is adequate. The treatment will be explained by the Consultant and you will be asked to sign a consent form in order for us to proceed. It is important to remember that choice is a part of your care and you have the right to change your mind at any time as long as it safe and practical to do so.

You will be prescribed medication for pain that we can give you regularly if you require it. The level of pain is individual some equate it with labour others with a bad period pain. Some women can experience nausea and diahorrea and if this is the case we will be able to administer medication in order to stop this from happening.

Generally the products of your pregnancy are passed within 6 hours of receiving the medication. If this does not occur, the process can be repeated. In the event that not all the products of your pregnancy are expelled, you may still require an operation. This surgery will be performed under a general anaesthetic and any remaining tissue will be removed from the uterus.

The Consultant will discuss with you how you wish to proceed with the disposal of your pregnancy remains. If you wish, you can make your own arrangements with any of the Gibraltar local funeral service providers.

Funeral Services Gibraltar Ltd 200 50600 M 58796000, Codali funeral Services 20050600, De Haro Funeral Directors LTD 20050600. Codali and De Haro come under Funeral services Gibraltar.

Green Valley Funeral Services Ltd 20076112 M 58009621

As part of the early pregnancy loss service the GHA has a dedicated book of remembrance for all early pregnancy losses before 20 weeks. You will be able if you wish to acknowledge your loss in this special book of remembrance.

Following your loss the Consultant Gynaecologist will give you a review appointment to be seen in 7 -10 days. At this appointment the Consultant will decide if you will require a repeat scan or urine specimen to test for the pregnancy hormone. You will also be able to discuss any issues or concerns about how you feel and your options for the future at this consultation.

This leaflet is to be read in conjunction with the GHA

Gibraltar Health Authority

General Information Leaflet for Women and their Partners

*Management of Early Pregnancy Problems and Miscarriage*

**St Bernard's Hospital Early Pregnancy Service telephone numbers  
20072266 ext. 2124 ext. 2125**