

OR 714-922-4100 | SB 909-890-5511

Information for Informed Consent
TREATMENT OF MISCARRIAGE: WAIT AND SEE

What is choosing to wait and see?

Choosing to wait and see means you will wait to see if the pregnancy passes on its own. It may take a week or more for that to happen.

Before deciding to wait and see, you need to know the most common benefits, risks, and other choices you have. We are happy to answer any questions you have.

What are the benefits of wait and see?

Waiting to see if the pregnancy passes on its own may help you to avoid having to use medicines or a suction procedure. Some people consider this more natural.

What are the risks of wait and see?

As long as you are not having heavy bleeding or signs or symptoms of infection, waiting to see if the pregnancy passes on its own is very safe.

The risks of wait and see are

- The pregnancy doesn't pass — This means some or all of the pregnancy may be left inside the uterus. This may lead to heavy bleeding, infection, or both. If this happens, you may need a suction procedure or other tests or treatments.
- Blood clots in the uterus — Clots may cause cramping and belly pain. If this happens, you may need a suction procedure.
- Bleeding too much or too long — This may require treatment with medicine, a suction procedure, or a blood transfusion.
- Infection of the uterus — Most infections can be treated with medicines but there is a small chance that you may need a suction procedure. You may have to go to the hospital, or even have surgery to treat the infection.

What other options do I have?

- You can have a suction procedure.
- You can use medicine(s).

Which option is best for you depends on your individual situation. If you decide you want to try a different option, let us know. We can talk about any of these options with you, and help you with whatever you decide to do.

What will happen if I wait and see?

You can expect several things to happen during a miscarriage.

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- **Bleeding** — You will begin to bleed. You may bleed heavily and pass large blood clots. They may be the size of a lemon. Bleeding can last for several hours. If you are over 8 weeks into your pregnancy, you may see pregnancy tissue. The fetus is small and about ¼ to ½ inch in size. It is light tan in color. It may not be noticed with the bleeding and clots. The bleeding usually gets lighter after the pregnancy has passed.
- **Cramps** — You will start to have cramps. Some people feel stronger cramps than others. Cramping will get better after the pregnancy has passed. It can last for several hours.

What else do I need to know?

You will be given instructions on how to take care of yourself while you wait and see and reasons to contact us. We will give you a time to return to Planned Parenthood for a follow-up visit.

No promise can be made about the outcome when you choose to wait and see. In the unlikely event that you need emergency medical care that cannot be provided at Planned Parenthood, you will be responsible for paying for it. This is the case even if Planned Parenthood sends you to a hospital because of a problem.

Your health is important to us. If you have any questions or concerns. We are happy to help you.