



## **Surgical (Suction) Abortion Procedure at AMAC**

Suction Procedure uses a combination of medicines and suction to remove a pregnancy.

You will be given medication which includes sedation. A small IV needle will be inserted into your arm and will stay in place for 2-3 hours. A gown will be provided. There will be a wait between 1-3 hours for the medication to have an effect before you get taken to the procedure room.

You will be in the procedure room for approximately 15-30 minutes although the procedure is short. You will be given IV medication for your comfort, you will be conscious throughout the procedure, although the medication can make you feel sleepy. You may also feel dizzy, have a dry mouth and experience your heart racing, which are all normal.

You should expect no more pain than a crampy period. This is a simple, safe procedure, not a surgical operation.

A nurse will walk you back to your room where you may rest or sleep for approximately 30 mins. You can drink small amounts after the procedure.

Your IV needle will be removed once your bleeding has been checked. You will be given a discharge letter. You can go home if you are feeling well.

### **Details of the procedure**

Once you are lying down on the bed the nurse will assist you to move your underwear. The doctor will start by doing a vaginal examination.

The doctor will:

- Insert a speculum.
- Numb your cervix with anaesthetic (92% of woman do not feel this).
- Gently dilate your cervix.
- Remove the pregnancy tissue with a small plastic suction tube (you may feel a little bit crampy at this time).
- Insert any contraception device if requested (Copper IUD, Mirena, Jadelle).



## Aftercare

During the next two weeks to reduce the risk of infection

Nothing goes into the vagina.

- Use sanitary pads not tampons.
- Do not use a swimming pool, spa or have a bath. Have a good shower instead.
- Avoid sexual intercourse.

### **Expected**

- Bleeding like a period, light or spotting, stop/start or none.
- Mild cramps are relieved with regular pain relief.
- Next monthly menstruation in four to nine weeks.
- Pregnancy symptoms, breast tenderness, nausea and fatigue, will disappear within a week or two.

### **Unexpected**

- Very heavy bleeding, soaking two pads an hour or passing lots of large clots.
- Prolonged bleeding, more than 2 weeks.
- Uncontrollable pain.
- Fever or feeling unwell.
- Smelly vaginal discharge.

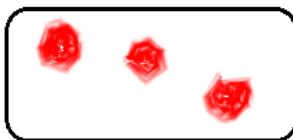
If you are experiencing any of the above or you are worried something is not right please contact [AMAC 09 6386040](tel:096386040) or the After Hours [Doctor](#).

## Guide to Bleeding Levels

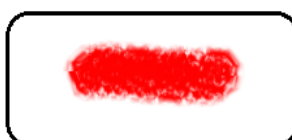
After your suction procedure your bleeding may vary from **spotting** to **moderate**.

If you have **heavy bleeding** and **pass clots** **OR** have **ongoing bleeding over 2 weeks** please contact clinic or oncall DR.

Spotting



Light



Moderate



Heavy

