

Manual Vacuum Aspiration Miscarriage

Manual Vacuum Aspiration Miscarriage (MVA) is a way of emptying the uterus (womb) using local anaesthetic whilst you are awake. MVA has been used for more than 30 years in the UK, United States and globally. It has been shown to be a safe procedure, with a high success rate and good patient acceptability.

This is appropriate where miscarriage has occurred up to nine weeks or equivalent size or where not all of the pregnancy tissue has come away at the time of miscarriage.

Local anaesthetic is used to numb your cervix prior to the procedure. A narrow tube is then used to empty your womb using gentle suction.

On admission

You will be seen by the nurse who will ensure that you fully understand the procedure and that you are happy to go ahead. Approximately one hour prior to the procedure you will be given some tablets to be inserted into the vagina in order to prepare your cervix. This can either be done by yourself using a tampon, or can be put in for you by the nurse. These allow your cervix to be prepared for the MVA. We will give you some pain relieving medication.

What happens during the procedure?

The procedure lasts 15 to 20 minutes in total. You will be asked to lie on a couch where a vaginal speculum will be inserted to allow the doctor to see the neck of your womb (cervix). You will be given some local anaesthetic to numb your cervix. This allows the doctor to gently pass a small tube into your womb. Some women find using some gas and air (Entonox) useful to help with any discomfort. The nurse will explain how to use this at the time of the procedure. Gentle suction is applied to allow the doctor to aspirate the pregnancy tissue from your womb.

The doctor or the nurse will scan to ensure that all the pregnancy tissue has come away.

After the procedure

Many women feel well enough to go home straight after the MVA, however there are facilities available if more recovery time is needed.

During your stay you will be given antibiotic tablets to reduce the risk of infection. It is **very** important that you take these. If you feel that you cannot take these tablets please discuss this with the staff.

Useful Contact Information

Women's Outpatients Department CIC: 01228 814264

Aspen Ward 01228 814287

Miscarriage Association: <https://www.miscarriageassociation.org.uk/>

Association of early Pregnancy Units: <http://www.aepu.org.uk/>

National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Confidentiality

'The Trust's vision is to keep your information safe in our hands.'

We promise to use your information fairly and legally, and in-line with local and national policies. You have a right to understand how your information is used and you can request a copy of the information we hold about you at any time.

For further information contact the Subject Access Coordinators
SACCIC@ncuh.nhs.uk or SACWCH@ncuh.nhs.uk

Feedback

We appreciate and encourage feedback, which helps us to improve our services. If you have any comments, compliments or complaints to make about your care, please contact the PALS team (Patient Advice and Liaison Service) on 01228 814008 between 10.30 and 4.30 Monday to Friday or email PALSCIC@ncuh.nhs.uk.

If you would like this factsheet in another language or format, for example Braille, large print or audio the PALS team will be able to assist you (contact details above)

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