

We are sorry that you are experiencing a miscarriage. The information below explains how we manage the miscarriage medically.

Medical management of miscarriage usually involves using tablets to ensure that the uterus is empty. You may be given a tablet to take (Mifepristone) which blocks the hormone progesterone to the uterus. Following this you may go home, you will then be admitted 48 hours later for the second part of the treatment.

You will be admitted to Orchard Ward and a nurse will insert four small tablets into your vagina, you will then need to lay flat for an hour whilst the tablets dissolve. The tablets will encourage the womb to start contracting; this may cause you to have stomach cramps. You will be offered pain relief if you feel too uncomfortable. Around 2.5% of women experience heavy bleeding, but generally once the miscarriage has happened the bleeding settles down. If the tablets are not effective after three hours then you will be given two tablets to take orally (or vaginally if you are feeling sick).

Women vary in their reaction to the medication given, reactions may include a burning sensation in the vagina, diarrhoea, sickness or dizziness. These generally do not last long, but you are advised to tell one of the nurses or doctors.

You will need to stay on the ward for at least six hours, or until the doctor is happy for you to be discharged. Most women miscarry within two to four hours of the tablets being inserted.

The fetal tissue is treated respectfully and cremation can be arranged by the hospital. Please discuss these options with the nurse that admits you.

You will need to bring in some sanitary pads and a change of comfortable clothing; you may need to stay in overnight if the miscarriage is incomplete. You may bleed for several days following the miscarriage and have some stomach cramps. It is safe for you to take painkillers to ease the discomfort.

You should ring the ward on 01234 792219 to seek advice if:

- You experience very heavy bleeding and have to change your pad every hour or pass large clots.
- You experience severe pain that is not controlled by simple pain relief, i.e. Paracetamol.
- Your bleeding starts again after it has stopped.
- Your bleeding becomes offensive smelling and / or you become feverish.

Please do not use tampons until your next period