

A second drug is given by mouth or placed in the vagina causing the uterus to contract and expel the fetus and placenta. A return visit to the doctor is required for follow-up to make sure the abortion is completed.

#### Possible Complications

- incomplete abortion
  - allergic reaction to medications
  - nausea and/or vomiting
  - fever
  - painful cramping
  - heavy bleeding
  - diarrhea
  - infection
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### Vacuum Aspiration Abortion

A local anesthetic is applied or injected into or near the cervix to prevent discomfort or pain. The opening of the cervix is gradually stretched with a series of dilators. The thickest dilator used is about the width of a fountain pen. A tube is inserted into the uterus and is attached to a suction system that will remove the fetus, placenta and membranes from the woman's uterus. A follow up appointment should be made with the doctor.

#### Possible Complications

- incomplete abortion
  - heavy bleeding
  - perforated uterus
  - pelvis infection
  - torn cervix
  - blood clots in uterus
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### Dilation and Curettage Abortion

A local anesthetic is applied or injected into or near the cervix to prevent discomfort or pain. The opening of the cervix is gradually stretched with a series of dilators. The thickest dilator used is about the width of a fountain pen. A spoon-like instrument (curette) is used to scrape the walls of the uterus to remove the fetus, placenta, and membranes. A follow up appointment should be made with the doctor.

#### Possible Complications

- pelvic infection
  - heavy bleeding
  - incomplete abortion
  - blood clots in uterus
  - perforated uterus
  - torn cervix
- requiring vacuum aspiration