



32 E 1st St. Suite 300, Duluth, MN 55802

• 218-727-3352 •

www.wehealthclinic.org

IN-CLINIC SUCTION ABORTION: ABOUT YOUR DAY

- **Check in—**
 - Identification and insurance information will be collected.
 - You will receive a clipboard with information to read and forms to complete. Please carry your clipboard with you and continue working on your paperwork until it is all complete. If you have questions, please ask, we are happy to help.
 - **Please do not sign any of the paperwork until instructed by a staff member.**
- **Ultrasound—**You will have an ultrasound to determine the gestational age of your pregnancy. A probe (like a wand) will be placed on your abdomen or into your vagina to get a picture of the pregnancy. You will have the choice to view images of the ultrasound and/or know if it is a multiple pregnancy (twins).
- **Laboratory Tests—**You may have:
 - The doctor may decide that you need a finger poke or blood draw from your arm for certain testing (i.e., RH factor, Hgb (hemoglobin), HCG, etc.)
 - Testing for sexually transmitted infections is available by request. Some testing may be covered by insurance. Please ask a staff member if interested.

If you have received your nurse assessment and patient education over the phone, you have already completed most of the steps in the box below. If you have not received the nurse assessment and patient education prior to today, you will complete the steps in the box below.

- **Nurse Assessment—**You will have:
 - Your medical history reviewed by a nurse.
 - Your vital signs taken.
 - The opportunity to discuss contraceptive methods. WHC offers same-day IUDs and implants.
 - Your pre-operative pain reliever, prophylactic (preventative) antibiotic, and any other medication as determined by the physician.
- **Education and Consent—**A staff person will:
 - Tell you about the in-clinic suction abortion, the risks and possible complications.
 - Discuss your decision with you.
 - Answer any questions you have.
 - Obtain your written consent (permission) to have the in-clinic suction abortion.

- **Payment—**You will be required to pay in-full prior to your procedure, unless you have previously arranged to pay with insurance or Minnesota Medical Assistance. WHC accepts all major credit cards, debit, and cash. Unfortunately, we cannot accept personal checks.
- **Procedure—**You will:
 - Be called back by a staff member for your procedure.
 - You will be asked to empty your bladder and place a maxi pad in your underwear. **Did you forget maxi pads? Ask a staff member for one.**

- Be asked to undress from the waist down and have a seat on the exam table. Please do not have gum and/or candy in your mouth.
- Have a pelvic exam by the physician.
- Have a physician and an assisting lab staff present during the procedure. The assisting lab staff will be assisting the physician and supporting you during the procedure. After the procedure, a staff member will escort you to the recovery room.
- **Recovery Room**—You will:
 - Remain in the recovery room for 10-15 minutes, where you will be monitored by a nurse.
 - Receive homecare instructions related to the in-clinic suction abortion.
 - Receive information regarding your contraceptive method you chose.
 - Receive any additional medication that the physician may feel is necessary.
 - Receive a doctor’s excuse for work or school (if needed).
 - Be asked to check your pad for bleeding. If you are feeling well, your blood pressure is stable, and your bleeding is within normal limits, you will be discharged.
- **Follow-up Appointments**—Follow-up appointments are available free of charge and scheduled as needed. If you would like to return to WHC for a follow-up appointment, you may schedule it at the front desk on your way out or call WHC at a later time.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- **Breaks**—If you wish to step out of our office during the day, please notify the front desk. We request that you stay in the waiting room until your paperwork is complete and you have met with all staff. There are several points throughout the day that patients need to stay in the waiting area of the clinic.
- **Food**—Food is allowed in the waiting room for patients. There are vending machines located on the bottom floor (Level 1), near the stairs. There are also several restaurants located within walking distance of the clinic, please ask the front desk for more information.
- **Parking**—There is not parking available at WHC. If you parked in the back parking lot, move your vehicle immediately or it may be towed. If you parked at the Technology Village Parking Lot, the pay station is located on the 2nd or skywalk level. Parking is \$1.00/hour and can be paid by cash and/or card prior to exiting the ramp.
- **Protesters**—If you encounter any difficulties with protesters outside the clinic today, please inform WHC staff at the front desk or call the police.
- **Security**—Our security system is for the protection of WHC patients, staff, and physicians. We understand this can be an inconvenience, but it is for everyone’s own safety. No one will be admitted into the clinic without a photo ID with their date of birth.
- **Smoking**—Smoking is prohibited within 100 feet of the building, this includes the front plaza.