

# First-trimester Aspiration Abortion

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# Learning Objectives

- Epidemiology of 1<sup>st</sup> trimester abortion in the United States
- Safety of 1<sup>st</sup> trimester abortion
- How to perform suction aspiration

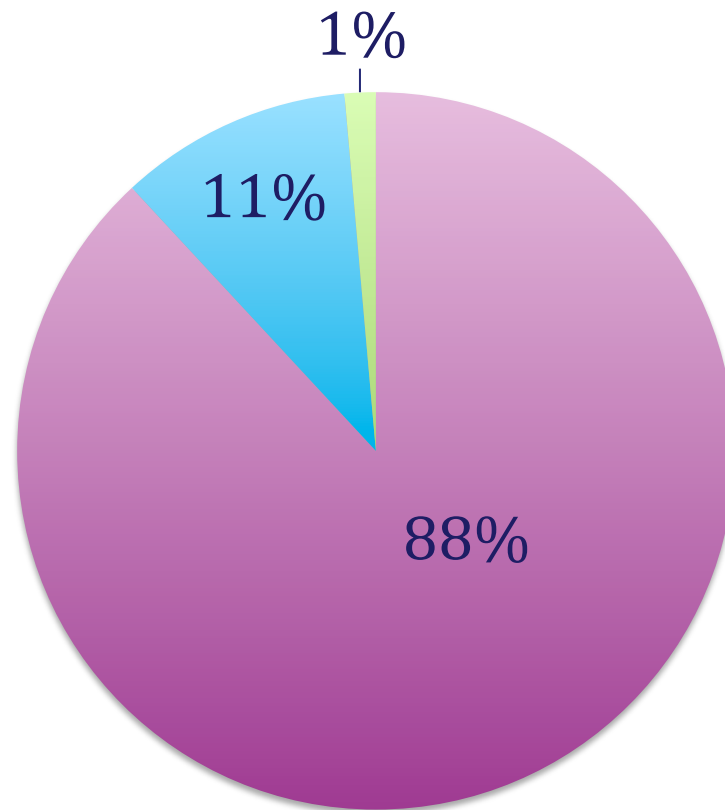
# **Epidemiology of 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Abortion in the United States**

# Incidence of Abortion

- Abortion is one of the most common surgical procedures in the US
- 1.21 million abortions per year in US
- By age 45, ~1/3 of all US women will have had an abortion

# Most abortions occur in the first trimester.

■ <12 weeks   ■ 13-20 weeks   ■ 21+ weeks



# Abortion Safety... in Perspective

Mortality, per 100,000 women:

- Aspiration abortion in 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester.....0.7
- Penicillin.....2.0
- Term Pregnancy.....11.8

# Techniques of Aspiration Abortion in the 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester

# Overview of Aspiration Abortion in the 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester

- Manual uterine aspiration (MUA)
- Electric uterine aspiration (EUA)





# MUA versus EUA: which is better?

- Manual v. electric: no difference - complication (2.5% vs. 2.1%)<sup>1</sup>, pain, provider or pt. satisfaction<sup>2,3</sup>

	EUA in OR	MUA in ER
Wait time (↓52%)	7.14 hrs	3.45 hrs
Procedure time	33 min	19 min
Total cost (↓ 41%)	\$1,404	\$827

# Basic Steps for Aspiration Abortion

- Counseling
- History, physical exam, confirmation of IUP
- Medication
- Positioning, clean cervix, para-cervical block
- Cervical dilation
- Aspiration
- Evaluation of products
- Observation, contraception, Rhogam



Sharp curettage should no longer be used for abortion.



- Increased risk for major **complications**
- **Slower** procedure
- More **blood loss**



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# Antibiotics for Prevention of Infection

- Infection after induced abortion is low, 1%
- Doxycycline
  - Inexpensive, rarely cause allergic reactions
- Our practice
  - Doxycycline 100mg, then 100mg 12 hours later
  - Azithromycin 1gm

# Cervical Preparation

- Preoperative preparation
  - Misoprostol, osmotic cervical dilators
  - 3-4 hours pre-procedure
- WHO
  - Cervical priming for all women younger than 18 years old
  - Nulliparous women >9weeks
  - All women >12weeks

# Summary

- Majority of abortions occur in the first trimester
- Complications from first trimester abortion are rare
- Abortion with sharp curettage **should not** be performed
- Aspiration abortion is a simple, safe procedure