



## Scotland PBSG Learning Programme



## The Foundation for Medical Practice Education

### Practice Based Small Group Learning (PBSG) International

McMaster University

Website: [www.fmpe.org](http://www.fmpe.org)

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## EARLY PREGNANCY LOSS: 2012 UPDATE

Early pregnancy loss is a common problem that affects up to 20% of recognised pregnancies. Accurate diagnosis and management that includes ultrasound and evidence-based treatments, as well as judicious use of anti-D immunoglobulin, will safeguard maternal health and protect future pregnancies.

This updated module is designed to clarify:

- the options for managing early pregnancy loss, particularly medical management.
- the diagnosis and management of ectopic pregnancies.
- the role of anti-D immunoglobulin in rhesus negative women with early pregnancy loss.

### CASES

#### Case 1: Kelly, age 30

##### Part One

Kelly sees you for early antenatal care. She had a previous miscarriage and is extremely anxious about this pregnancy. She is a healthy non-smoker. Her last menstrual period (LMP) was about seven weeks ago and she had a positive urine pregnancy test. She has recently had some mild lower abdominal discomfort "like just before my period", but no spotting or bleeding.

##### *What would you do?*

##### Part Two

She is seen by the hospital team and a subsequent letter informs you that transvaginal ultrasound scan (TVUS) revealed an empty gestational sac. She has been sent home after being given vaginal misoprostol.