



# Bleeding with Pregnancy

## What is it?

Vaginal bleeding when pregnant is common for many women. Bleeding happens more often during the first 3 months. You may have spotty bleeding or your bleeding may be light to very heavy. You may also pass blood clots. Many things may cause you to bleed while you are pregnant. The problem may be minor or a sign of some more serious problem. Bleeding may be a sign there is a problem with your baby.

## Causes

While you are pregnant, you may have bleeding from things like:

- Sexual relations
- Having an exam like a pap test or internal exam
- A vaginal or yeast infection
- Cervical polyp

You may have a problem with your pregnancy that causes you to bleed. You may have:

- A problem with the placenta
- Preterm labor
- A miscarriage

You may be more likely to bleed if you:

- Have been pregnant before and had problems
- If you are older than 35
- Some health problems, such as high blood pressure or sickle cell anemia, may cause bleeding
- If you are carrying more than one baby
- Using illicit drugs

## Treatment

Treatment is based on the cause of bleeding. Your doctor may suggest:

- Rest. You may need full bed rest or even stay in the hospital
- Fewer activities
- Avoiding sex
- Keeping record of your bleeding
- IV fluids or blood transfusion
- Medication
- Surgery

Your doctor may order medication to

- Fight an infection
- Stop labor
- Help with the pain

Information Use and Disclaimer:

This information is not specific medical advice and does not replace information you receive from your health care provider.

Source: Lexicomp Online: Patient Care-Bleeding with Pregnancy