

ABNORMAL UTERINE BLEEDING

Normal menstrual cycles occur approximately every 28 days, and bleeding associated with a period may last up to 7 days. When a cycle is not regular, or lasts more than 7 days, or there is bleeding between the periods, it may be abnormal. Abnormal uterine bleeding may be caused by one of the following:

- Hormone imbalance (not ovulating)
- Pregnancy, including miscarriage and ectopic pregnancy
- Problems related to birth control (birth control pills or IUDs)
- Infections
- Uterine fibroids
- Blood clotting disorders
- Certain cancers (uterus, cervix, and vagina)
- Chronic medical problems (diabetes, thyroid conditions)

Abnormal uterine bleeding should be evaluated by your doctor, and may require special blood tests, ultrasound, biopsy of the lining of the uterus (endometrial biopsy), or even surgical evaluation. Treatment may involve hormonal medications, anti-inflammatory drugs, or surgery. It is valuable to keep a calendar of your menstrual cycle to share with your physician at your visit.

For more information, please refer to the following website
http://www.webmd.com/content/article/20/1728_51017.htm