

# ED Care Network: Surgical Quality Update



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## What is this about?

A new Guideline and Procedure were approved by the Surgical Care Network on November 4, 2025. Since then, the documents and their related appendices have been posted online. These items are defined and reasons being shared with the Emergency Care Network for the reasons outlined below:

### Guideline for Surgical Management of Pregnancy Loss and Termination of Pregnancy



Patient counselling and consenting regarding:

- Perioperative care aspects
- Testing (genetic and/or tissue examination)
- Disposition options for products of conception (disposal at hospital, release of/taking home products or funeral home) and stillbirth (funeral home facilitated cremation or burial, patient transport to cemetery or crematorium)



### Procedure for Release of Products of Conception or Stillborn to Patient

- Patient counselling and consent regarding release of POC or stillborn
- Detailed procedure about differences in release of products of conception versus stillborn

### How does this apply to the Emergency department?



- The ED may treat a patient who has a miscarriage while they are in the ED, or require a precipitous procedure while in the department
- Staff may use patient handouts for counselling and/or informational purposes around testing and disposition options
- Creating awareness that patients are able to bring tissues home if requested
- Use staff handouts for your own education, how to communicate with patients, and/or why patients might request release of the remains to them

Please connect with the surgical quality team at [surgicalquality@islandhealth.ca](mailto:surgicalquality@islandhealth.ca) if you have any further questions. With this agenda item, we are bridging communication between the many structures in the Clinical Governance model to ensure a successful implementation of this important culturally safe work!

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