



Images by Ana Galvão



'PUL' is a term used to describe women with a positive pregnancy test who have no evidence of either an intra- or extra-uterine pregnancy on transvaginal ultrasound scanning



1. There is no evidence of an intrauterine pregnancy: different types of endometrium can be seen



Trilaminar aspect

Thickened

Thickened



1. There is no evidence of an intrauterine pregnancy: different types of endometrium can be seen





Most 'pseudo sacs' are actually early intrauterine pregnancies rather than fluid indicating an ectopic



'Pseudo sac'

'Pseudo sac'

'Pseudo sac'



2. There is no evidence of an ectopic pregnancy



Normal ovary

Corpus luteum

Corpus luteum



2) There is no evidence of an ectopic pregnancy



Uterus and ovary

Normal ovary

Normal ovary



2) There is no evidence of an ectopic pregnancy



Corpus luteum

Normal ovary

Normal ovary



3) Most patients are stable with no evidence of haemoperitoneum/ just physiological fluid on Douglas pouch



No free fluid

Physiological fluid



Barnhart K, et al. Pregnancy of unknown location: A consensus statement of nomenclature, definitions, and outcome. *Fertil Steril 2011;95*(3):857–866.



Persistent PUL

Pregnancy of unknown location (PUL) Classification of final outcomes for women with an initial ultrasound classification of PUL based on location

Ectopic pregnancy	Resolved PUL	Treated PUL	Intrauterine
Visualised ectopic	Spontaneously resolved	Treated persistent PUL	pregnancy
, pregnancy	PUL	Medical management of	Visualised intrauterine
Evidence of ectopic	Spontaneous resolution of	PUL without confirmation	pregnancy
pregnancy on transvaginal	hCG levels	of the location of	Evidence of intrauterine
sonography (TVS) or via		gestation	pregnancy on TVS
laparoscopy	Resolved persistent PUL Spontaneous resolution of		Should be classified as viable, viability uncertain
Non-visualised ectopic	hCG levels with expectant		or non-viable
pregnancy	management or after		
Persistent or rising hCG levels after uterine	uterine evacuation without evidence of chorionic villi		Histological intrauterine pregnancy
evacuation	on pathology		Chorionic villi identified in contents of uterine evacuation



Management protocols: PUL

hCG 48 hours/ hCG 0 hours



Bobdiwala S. et al. Hum Reprod. 2016;31(7):1425-35.



Management protocols: PUL



App: search 'early pregnancy Leuven' in the app store

Free website: www.earlypregnancycare.com/m6

SCAN in 48 hrs 2 weeks 1 week

Van Calster B. et al UOG, 2016;48(5):642-649.