



Pregnancy Early Access Center

## Preparing for Your Visit Emotional Care

PEACE is committed to providing the most sensitive and compassionate care to you at this difficult time. This sheet will explain services that will be offered during your visit. We respect that every person has different needs and the team at PEACE will support you in making the choices that feel right for you and your family.

### Emotional Care & Grief Support Resources

Every person has different needs and different methods for coping with difficult times. The healthcare team will offer resources available to support you and help you heal.

- Counseling Therapy
- Support Group
- Hotlines/websites

### Keepsakes

Keepsakes are objects that are kept in memory of this pregnancy. All keepsakes are free.

- Footprints-the doctors may be able to obtain footprints
- Memory box-a small box where you can put ultrasounds, footprints and other objects related to this pregnancy
- Memory stone-a beautiful agate stone as a symbol of remembrance
- Ultrasound images

### Autopsy/Genetic Testing

Your doctor can talk to you about the information autopsy and genetic testing can provide in your unique situation.

#### **Autopsy**

- A pathologist (a doctor who specializes in the study of human diseases and their causes) uses surgical techniques to examine the body and individual organs.
- Throughout the process our pathology team works with the utmost professionalism, treating the body with dignity and respect while observing the family's wishes.

#### **Genetic testing**

- Genetic testing helps identify genetic problems which may have caused problems with this pregnancy.
- Genetic testing can be performed even if you chose not to have an autopsy.

## **Burial/Cremation**

At the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, we offer two options for burial/cremation. Our team can discuss this with you in more detail and address all questions and concerns.

### **Option 1: A private burial/cremation you will arrange with Pastoral Care**

All cultures, religions and spiritual traditions are served by Pastoral Care.

With this option

- you will work with an experienced chaplain to make arrangements
- you will be able to keep the ashes or decide when/where the remains are buried
- there may be a charge for this service

### **Option 2: Burial/cremation at Ivy Hill cemetery arranged by the hospital**

All cultures, religions and spiritual traditions are respected by Ivy Hill cemetery.

With this option

- the hospital will make all of the arrangements
- you will not be able to keep ashes or decide when/where the remains are buried
- you can visit the University of Pennsylvania plot at Ivy Hill, if you wish
- this service is free

## **Memorial Service**

The hospital hosts a candle lighting memorial service for our families every October. The service is intended for people from all religions, cultures and spiritual traditions. If you are interested in attending this memorial, a member of your healthcare team will take your contact information.