Vivien Williams on camera

So, the test is positive, you’re going to have a baby. But then it happens — a miscarriage.

Yvonne Butler Tobah, M.D.
OB-GYN
Mayo Clinic

“A miscarriage is a pregnancy that does not progress beyond 20 weeks.”

Yvonne Butler Tobah, M.D.
OB-GYN
Mayo Clinic

Mayo Clinic obstetrician Dr. Yvonne Butler Tobah says miscarriages are common, about 30 percent of women have them. The question is: Why? Well, when you get pregnant the egg and sperm combine and begin to divide.

In about 50 percent of miscarriages, we think if there’s a problem with how that division process occurs, the body attempts to remedy that error by stopping the pregnancy.

Other causes include issues with blood supply, implantation into the uterus, an incompetent cervix, underlying health problems such as high blood pressure, or smoking and drug use.

sot:

“The common theme many women go through is the question of ‘what did I do wrong?’”

Vivien Williams on camera

Dr. Butler Tobah says likely nothing. She says it’s ok to grieve but remember that most women who have miscarriages go on to have successful pregnancies later.

Vivien Williams

I’m Vivien Williams, and for more health news, visit the Mayo Clinic News Network.