

Definitions of infertility and recurrent pregnancy loss: a committee opinion

Practice Committee of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine

American Society for Reproductive Medicine, Birmingham, Alabama

This document contains the definitions of infertility and recurrent pregnancy loss as defined by the Practice Committee of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine. It replaces the document titled, "Definitions of Infertility and Recurrent Pregnancy Loss," last published in 2008, *Fertil Steril* 2008;90(Suppl 3):S60. (*Fertil Steril*® 2012; ■:■. ©2012 by American Society for Reproductive Medicine.)

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Infertility is a disease,* defined by the failure to achieve a successful pregnancy after 12 months or more of appropriate, timed unprotected intercourse or therapeutic donor insemination. Earlier evaluation and treatment may be justified based on medical history and physical findings and is warranted after 6 months for women over age 35 years.

Recurrent pregnancy loss is a disease* distinct from infertility, defined by two or more failed pregnancies. When the cause is unknown, each pregnancy loss merits careful review to determine whether specific evaluation may be appropriate.

For purposes of determining when evaluation and treatment for infertility or recurrent pregnancy loss are appropriate, pregnancy is defined as a clinical pregnancy documented by ultrasonography or histopathologic examination.

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The following members of the ASRM Practice Committee participated in the development of this document. All Committee members disclosed

commercial and financial relationships with manufacturers or distributors of goods or services used to treat patients. Members of the Committee who were found to have conflicts of interest based on the relationships disclosed did not participate in the discussion or development of this document.

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* Disease is "any deviation from or interruption of the normal structure or function of any part, organ, or system of the body as manifested by characteristic symptoms and signs; the etiology, pathology, and prognosis may be known or unknown" (1).

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