**©**

**Dynamic Solutions for Unplanned Pregnancy**

2012

**Optimization Tool**

**Advocate Assisted Linear Service Model**

*A two-team, integrated model for serving women facing unplanned pregnancy.*

Optimization Tool©

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# Optimization Tool© Addendum

# Adoption Script Innovation

*The Options Presentation step (Step 6 in SLSM, Step 7 in AALSM) is edited as follows:*

## Step – Review Options

“Our purpose here at CompassCare is to empower you with information about all of your pregnancy options and to work through your thoughts about those options. We’ll take a look at abortion first, and then later, we’ll talk about the options you have if you were to choose to carry to term.”

#### Present Abortion: Procedures, Risks and Side-effects Brochure

Advocate should present the “Abortion: Procedures, Risks and Side-effects” Brochure saying:

1. “It is important you understand what you can expect from any given abortion procedure. I’d like to give you a brochure containing information taken from a survey of women who have had an abortion and were asked the question ‘What information do you wish you would have had prior to having an abortion?’ 95% said they wish they would have been given information on Fetal Development.”
2. Open the brochure to the place that explains the procedure for the week’s gestation from her last menstrual period (i.e. first day of her last menstrual period) as shown on the Birth Date wheel.
3. Allow the patient to read it on her own.
4. Ask the patient, “Do you understand what you read?” and “Is any of this information new or surprising to you?”
5. Tell the patient, “If you have any specific medical questions related to what you read, our Nurse will be happy to discuss them with you.”

Continue to next step. Do not present information about parenting or adoption at this time.

*The presentation of resources following the ultrasound (Step 12 in SLSM, Step 13 in AALSM) is amended as follows:*

## Step – Patient Resource List

After the ultrasound exam is complete and the nurse has reviewed pertinent information with the patient:

1. Return to the Consultation Room with the patient. [edit: only applies to AALSM]
2. Ask the patient, “How are you feeling about what you saw today?” Wait for an answer and then say, “We found that most women who say they need an abortion don’t really want one. What do you think/feel about that?” Be open to dialogue around her response.

### Present Adoption

1. Begin by presenting the “10 Questions” brochure from Bethany Christian Services, or local adoption agency equivalent.
2. Tell the patient, “This is often a difficult decision. There is an alternative to abortion and parenting that would provide a safe, loving home for your baby. Although there are many misconceptions about adoption, choosing to make an adoption plan can be the best option for a woman and her baby.”
3. Ask, “What are your thoughts/feelings about adoption?” Listen. Probe. Get to the ‘why’ behind any objections and refute misconceptions with evidence.
4. “Making an adoption plan is very flexible, and the birth mother is in control of all decisions. You can choose an adoption plan that allows you to have contact with your child or no contact at all. Choosing to make an adoption plan shows a great deal of maturity. It can be a very responsible, loving parental decision, because you’re choosing to give your child the very best of life possible.”
5. “If you’re considering an adoption plan, I’d encourage you to contact (contact name) of (local adoption referral). Her contact info is on the back of this brochure.”
6. “Do you have any questions about your adoption options right now?”

Continue with the remainder of the Step as written by presenting the Patient Resource List.