

Nala has menorrhagia—excessive or prolonged menstrual fluid loss. There are a number of potential causes—polyps, uterine fibroids, a hormone imbalances, a dysfunction of the ovaries where they don't release an egg, complications with pregnancy, intrauterine device (IUD), cancer, and other medical problems—and all resources only available at a hospital or clinic. Since each regular-sized tampon can hold up to 5 ml of fluid and Nala has used 18 tampons during the past eight days, her estimated fluid loss is less than 90 ml (18 ml x 5 ml = 90 ml) thus far. While her menstrual fluid loss is greater than normal and her period is longer than normal, she is not hemorrhaging and does not require an urgent, Level 1, evacuation. That said, she should see a physician sooner rather than later. If available, administer an oral iron supplement, begin a non-urgent, Level 3 evacuation, and continue to monitor any further fluid loss. If you have an early pregnancy test in your first aid kit, consider using it to rule out a miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy; both men and women have been known to bend the truth when speaking about their sexual history, even when an inaccurate response could lead to mis-assessing a medical problem.