

Contact:

If you have any concerns about your colposcopy treatment and need to speak to someone, please telephone:

Harbourside Gynaecology Centre

Main reception: **0300 019 2584**

Unit secretary: **0300 019 3107**

Colposcopy Department

0300 019 4672

You can leave a message on the answer phone and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

If you are worried about your symptoms out of office hours, please contact your own GP practice.

For further information visit the NHS websites giving information on cervical screening and colposcopy:

www.jostrust.org.uk

www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk

Cervical Biopsy

This leaflet explains
cervical biopsy


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Colposcopy Outpatients
Patient Information

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What is colposcopy?

Colposcopy is a simple examination used to examine the cervix (neck of the womb). The instrument used is called a colposcope which is like a large specially adapted magnifying glass which allows the colposcopist to see normal from abnormal appearing areas on the cervix

What is the Cervix?

The cervix is the lower part of the womb or uterus and is commonly called the 'neck of the womb'.

What is a Cervical Biopsy?

A cervical biopsy is a test in which small samples of tissue, which are the size of a pin head are taken from the cervix and sent to the laboratory to be examined. The results of the biopsy will give us more information and, together with the information from your examination and the biopsy report ,we can decide if you require any further treatment

Are there any side effects from the biopsy?

Common

The biopsy can cause some slight discomfort and period cramps, which soon disappear. It is advisable to take some mild painkillers such as paracetamol or Ibuprofen when you get home.

There may be a little vaginal blood stained discharge for about three to four days after the biopsies, however it is best to refrain from sexual intercourse for up to five days to allow the biopsy site to heal.

Rare

Continued or excessive vaginal bleeding.

Benefits

To have an accurate diagnosis.

To plan if any further treatment is needed.

After your biopsy

Avoid having hot baths for a day or two as this may cause any bleeding to become heavier.

Avoid swimming, aerobic or any strenuous activity for a couple of days or until the bleeding has stopped.

Tampons should not be used for the next day or two to reduce the risk of infection.

Please see your G.P. if you have any excessive bleeding as occasionally this may indicate a minor infection, which may require antibiotics.

When will I receive my results?

You will receive your result within three to four weeks, and if you require any further treatment or need to be seen again, this will be explained to you in your letter.

Please note: we are unable to give results over the telephone.