

## Instructions following Outpatient Cervical Biopsy / Removal of Cervical Polyp

### Introduction

This leaflet provides advice on the side effects that you might experience following a cervical biopsy or removal of a cervical polyp and the things that you should avoid doing for a while. It also explains when you can expect to get your results and what to do if you experience any problems.

### What is a Cervical Polyp

A polyp is a growth, usually benign which protrudes from any mucous membrane in the body. It emerges from the cervix (neck of womb) and can sometimes cause bleeding after intercourse or between periods. In extremely rare cases they can become infected or be cancerous.

### After effects

Following a cervical biopsy / removal of a cervical polyp you may have a reddish-black discharge for three-five days.

If the bleeding becomes severe, i.e. heavier than a period and you are not due your period, then please contact us on one of the numbers below for further advice.

You may experience some crampy period-like pains following the biopsy. This will settle over the next couple of hours, but you may take your usual painkillers if necessary. Rarely, you may develop an infection that will require antibiotics. If your discharge has an unpleasant smell then please contact your General Practitioner (GP).

### Things to avoid

- Avoid intercourse until the discharge has stopped, to allow the biopsy site to heal.
- Avoid using tampons whilst you have the discharge as they can be a source of infection.

### When will I get my Results?

We will contact you within three-four weeks with the results of your biopsy / polyp removal and a plan of care.

With some patients, your results may need to be discussed at a Gynaecology or Colposcopy Multidisciplinary Team Meeting (MDT); to confirm the findings, any results and finalise your plan of care. These meetings happen weekly / on alternate weeks. We will inform you if this is happening but as a consequence of this, there will be a delay in informing you of your final results.

**Further advice**

If you experience any other problems, for example heavy vaginal bleeding / smelly discharge please contact your General Practitioner (GP) for initial advice.

If you have any other concerns following your biopsy / polyp removal then please contact the following:

**Contact Details:**

<p><b>Hinchingsbrooke Hospital</b> Huntingdon, PE29 6NT <b>Gynaecology Clinic</b> Telephone: 01480 416084 (Monday – Friday 0900-1600) <b>Procedure Unit</b> Telephone: 01480 428958 <b>Daisy Ward</b> Telephone: 01480 428959</p>	<p><b>Peterborough (City Hospital)</b> <b>The Emergency Gynaecology Assessment Unit (EGAU)</b> Women’s Health Outpatients, Bretton Gate, PE3 9GZ Telephone: 01733 673758 Open: Weekdays 0800-1800-phone line open until 1730 Weekends/Bank holidays 0800-1200</p>
<p>For emergencies only, out of these hours, please attend the Emergency Department</p>	

Within this leaflet we use the term woman/women, however we acknowledge that it is not only people who identify as women for whom it is necessary to access our services. We recognise the importance of providing inclusive and respectful care to all people and their families, including those whose gender identity does not align with the sex they were assigned at birth. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to make you feel more comfortable while you are under our care.