



**Northumbria Healthcare**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Loop Biopsy Aftercare

Issued by Directorate of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

The purpose of this leaflet is to explain what happens following treatment.

You have had a treatment called a **Loop Biopsy** of the cervix. A loop of warm wire has been used to remove an area of tissue which is sent to the laboratory for testing.

## **What can happen to me after the biopsy has been taken?**

If you experience any discomfort in the few hours after treatment we recommend a simple pain-killer such as paracetamol or ibuprofen. It is common to experience a discharge following the treatment. It will be blood-stained and will last for about four weeks.

Your next period may be different. It may be early, prolonged, heavier than normal or occasionally missed entirely.

## **Post-treatment advice to minimise the risk of infection**

**Do not** have sexual intercourse for four weeks.

**Do not** use tampons - wear a sanitary pad for four weeks.

**Do not** use any vaginal creams or pessaries for four weeks.

The healing process may take up to 6 weeks so we advise you to avoid swimming, horse riding, running and aerobics for four weeks to minimise the risk of infection.

## **Signs of infection**

- The discharge becomes offensive, has an unpleasant odour or is green
- The bleeding becomes heavy
- You feel feverish or have a high temperature
- Severe abdominal pain

If you experience any of these symptoms you should contact your GP or attend the Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital in Cramlington.

## **After your treatment and your results**

Please allow 2-6 weeks for your results.

You will be informed by letter of your biopsy results. Your GP will be sent a copy of the letter if you have given consent.

Results will not be given over the telephone.

You will need to have a cervical sample (smear) performed 6 months after the treatment. The letter containing your results will advise you where you are to go for your cervical sample (smear). Please contact us if you change your address, this will ensure that we can continue to maintain communication with you.

## **In the event of any problems**

Contact numbers can be found below.

## **Useful contacts**

**Please contact the Nurse Colposcopist or the Colposcopy Secretary where you receive your treatment:**

**North Tyneside General Hospital**

(0191) 293 2501

**Wansbeck and Hexham General Hospitals and Berwick Infirmary**

(01670) 564145

## **Sources of information**

[www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk](http://www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk) [www.bsccp.org.uk](http://www.bsccp.org.uk)

## **Alternative Formats**

If you would like a copy of this information in large print, another language, audio tape or other format please call the Contact Centre on **03 44 811 8118**

## **Other sources of information**

### **NHS 111**

### **NHS Choices**

[www.nhs.uk/pages/homepage.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/pages/homepage.aspx)

### **NICE (National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence)**

[www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)

### **Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)**

Freephone: **0800 032 0202**

Text: 01670 511098

Email: [northoftynepals@nhct.nhs.uk](mailto:northoftynepals@nhct.nhs.uk)

### **Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust**

General Enquiries **03 44 811 8111**

[www.northumbria.nhs.uk](http://www.northumbria.nhs.uk)

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