

Follow up

A letter will be sent with your results and follow up arrangements. You should receive this in approximately four weeks.

If you have not received the expected letter or appointment within six weeks please telephone the Clinic. Results will NOT be given over the phone.

If you are unable for any reason to come on the appointment date given, please telephone the clerical co-ordinator on 01234 792219. Monday – Friday.

Otherwise the appointment is wasted and another patient is denied the opportunity of attending.

Please telephone if your name, address or GP has changed since your last visit.

Useful Numbers:

Colposcopy Nurse

Lesley Gillon – 01234 355122
Bleep 500

Colposcopy Clinic

01234 792007

Gynaecology

Loop diathermy aftercare



Information for patients following Loop Diathermy Treatment

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Your nurse has explained the following and indicated which applies to you, please read it again when you get home.

Loop diathermy

- Follow up from previous biopsies
- See and treat

The cells that are being looked for following your treatment are described below. The technical term for pre-cancerous cells is Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia (C.I.N). There are three grades according to the degree of change:-

C.I.N.1 – Means that only a third of the cells in the affected area are abnormal.

C.I.N.2 – Means that up to two thirds of the affected area are abnormal.

C.I.N.3 – Means that all the cells in the affected area are abnormal.

If any biopsies have previously been taken they will have shown which grade of C.I.N. is present. The specimen removed today will be sent to the laboratory for assessment and to make sure all the affected area has been removed.

Only very rarely will a biopsy or treatment show cell changes that have already developed into cancer.

Surgery and more extensive treatments are generally used to treat cervical cancer.

Other relevant information

95% of women never need any further treatment. The exact cause of C.I.N. is still unknown. It does appear to be related to sexual intercourse. There is also a link with the human papilloma (wart) virus. **Women who smoke are known to be at greater risk of developing C.I.N. than non smokers. This is because smoking reduces a woman's immunity to the damage virus can produce.**

Loop treatment (LLETZ) has shown to be associated with a small increased risk of pre-term delivery and low birth weight in subsequent pregnancies. However, this small risk is more than outweighed by the benefits of removing the abnormal cells from your cervix. If you have any concerns regarding this please discuss them with your colposcopist.

Aftercare

You will have blood stained discharge for approximately two-three weeks. Please use pads not tampons until the discharge has finished.

You may have bleeding today and at anytime during the next three weeks, especially around the 7th to 12th day when pieces of the scab may shed. If your period is not due and the bleeding becomes heavier than a normal period you should telephone Orchard Gynae on 01234 792219 or Clinic on 01234 792007.

Avoid heavy lifting for at least 24-48 hours after treatment if possible.

If for any reason the discharge becomes foul smelling please contact your GP.

You should abstain from vaginal intercourse for three weeks and then condoms should be used in addition to your normal contraception (to prevent infection) for the next six weeks.

Abdominal pain is not usually a problem when the local anaesthetic wears off but your normal painkillers may be taken if necessary.

Please try and rest today, it is not unusual to feel tired, low and tearful for a few days.

If you would like to speak to the nurse colposcopist you are very welcome to telephone Tuesday PM and Thursday.