

Colposcopy

If you have recently had an abnormal Pap test result, your health care provider may recommend a follow-up colposcopy procedure.

An abnormal cervical cancer screening (Pap test) result means that cells have been found on your cervix that do not look normal. Abnormal results are common and do not mean that you have cancer or precancerous cells. Follow-up is recommended to determine the type of cell changes.

What is a colposcopy?

Colposcopy is a procedure used to examine your cervix and vagina. A doctor will use a special microscope called a colposcope to look for abnormalities. During the colposcopy, the doctor may take a biopsy from any areas that appear abnormal.

Is a colposcopy procedure painful?

The colposcopy itself should not be painful, but it may be uncomfortable. If a biopsy is taken during the procedure, you may experience pinching or cramping sensations.

What are the risks of having a colposcopy?

The risk of complications from colposcopy are small, however a biopsy can cause an infection or bleeding in rare instances.

What happens during my colposcopy?

1. The exam starts off much like a Pap test: a doctor will use an instrument called a speculum to gently exam the vaginal and cervix.
2. Vinegar or iodine may be applied to your cervix to make any abnormalities more visible.
3. The doctor will then take biopsy from your cervix for additional testing. The procedure is done in 5-10 minutes.

Click on the link below to watch a video about the colposcopy procedure:

<https://precare.ca/colpo/>

What happens after the colposcopy?

There may be some spotting if a biopsy was taken which should stop within 24-48 hours. If a tampon is used to protect from spotting, ensure it is removed three hours after insertion. If you experience further spotting another tampon can be inserted or a pad may be used.

Understanding the results of a colposcopy exam

Low Grade (LSIL)	High Grade (HSIL)
Minor cell changes that often correct themselves .	Cell changes that are pre-cancerous that need to be treated.

When will I get my results?

Your colposcopy results will be available within 4-5 weeks and a doctor or nurse from the colposcopy clinic will contact you with any abnormal results with plans for the next steps. Normal results will be communicated with your referring doctor with recommendations about future PAP testing.

Where to find us

- Pavilion H, 3rd floor
- Enter from the Pavilion H entrance (5790 Côte-desNeiges)
- Take the Pavilion H elevators to the 3rd floor
- Follow the signs to Colposcopy

OR

- Make your way to the Pavilion K lobby
- Follow the signs to Pavilion H
- You will enter Pavilion H on the 3rd floor
- Continue straight and follow the signs to Colposcopy U

You can reach us at (514) 340-7521.