

Patient information

Having a cervical polypectomy

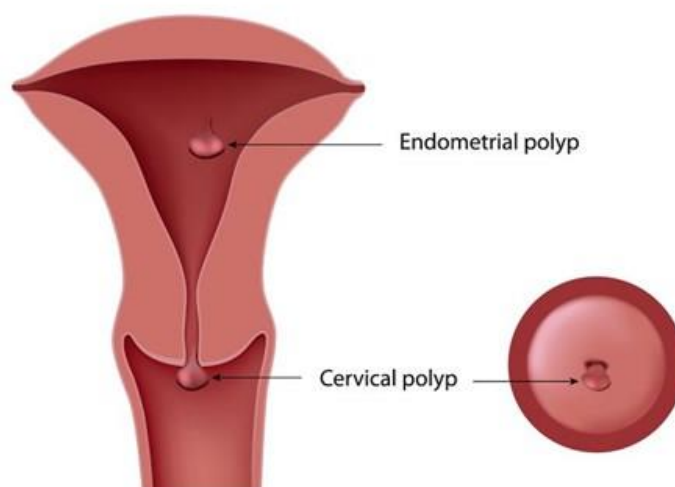
Introduction

A cervical polyp is a small piece of tissue, usually on a stalk, that grows on the cervix (neck of the womb). These polyps could be broad based, when it does not have a stalk but sits on the cervix. Often they cause no symptoms and are found on examination.

The exact cause of cervical polyps is not known. Possible causes are:

- congestion of blood vessels in the cervix
- infection of the cervix or chronic (long-term) inflammation
- abnormal response to an increase in oestrogen levels

Cervical polyps are usually benign (non-cancerous). Less than 1% of polyps may have pre-cancerous or have cancerous changes within them. It is therefore advisable to have them removed.



Procedure

You have just had a polyp removed from the cervix. The sample will be sent to the laboratory for further investigation. The following notes are to help you understand what to expect following this procedure.

Following your procedure

You may experience some bleeding or a discharge following the procedure over the next few days. We recommend that you wear sanitary pads (not tampons) until your next period or until the discharge or bleeding stops. If the bleeding becomes heavy or the discharge becomes offensive, causes irritation or soreness, please contact your GP for advice.

You may have some discomfort similar to period pains for the remainder of the day, this is quite normal. It is advisable to take some mild painkillers such as paracetamol or ibuprofen when you get home.

You should avoid sexual intercourse until any bleeding has stopped.

Results and follow-up

You will receive the result of your biopsy in the post in 3 - 4 weeks and if further treatment/review is required this will be explained in your letter.

If you have any questions or concerns about your treatment please, feel free to contact the Colposcopy Nursing staff 01284 713601.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (the new name for DisabledGo)
<https://www.accessable.co.uk>

