Colposcopy

Why do I need a colposcopy?

Abnormal Pap smear results or repeated episodes of vaginal bleeding after sexual intercourse may signal cervical disease, premalignant changes or even cervical cancer. Examination by colposcopy allows early diagnosis of the condition.

What is colposcopy?

Similar to Pap smear test, colposcopy is a direct examination of the cervix, vagina and vaginal opening (vulva). Doctor will use a special lighted microscope, i.e. colposcope, to illuminate the cervix and magnify the images of the cervical and vaginal surface by 10 to 40 times. A special liquid is used to highlight the abnormal tissue. Often the doctor might need to take a biopsy, i.e. a small bite of tissue from the affected area for pathological examination. The whole procedure usually takes an average of 5 to 10 minutes.

Is it painful? Will it cause bleeding?

You may feel mild discomfort, uterine cramps or pinches, especially during the biopsy. Most women can tolerate the discomfort without the need for anaesthesia. There would be a small amount of bleeding after biopsy. It means you may need to use sanitary napkins for a few days after the procedure.

Are there any risks?

Colposcopy is a very safe procedure. You may experience bleeding and a little discomfort after the procedure, especially during the biopsy. The risk of infection is extremely low.

How should I prepare for a colposcopic examination?

Refrain from douching, using vaginal medication and tampons or having sexual intercourse 24 hours before colposcopy.

Will it affect my ability to bear children?

No. You can bear children after colposcopy as only a small amount of tissue is extracted from your cervix for biopsy.

What should I do after colposcopy?

In general, avoid sexual intercourse or vaginal douching and do not put tampons in your vagina in the coming 1-2 weeks if you have a cervical biopsy. Please follow your doctor’s advice for the details. Please also consult your doctor if significant bleeding occurs.

When will I get the results?

A pathology report is usually available within 1 week after cervical biopsy. You should make an appointment with your doctor 1 to 2 weeks after the procedure, talking over the results and the need for further treatment.
陰道鏡檢查

為什麼要做陰道鏡檢查？
如柏氏抹片檢查出現異常結果，或病人在進行性行為後陰道多次出血，均顯示病人有可能患有宮頸疾病、癌前病變，甚至癌症，需要查早作陰道鏡檢查，及早診斷。

什麼是陰道鏡檢查？
陰道鏡是一項檢查程序，與子宮頸柏氏抹片檢查大致相同。醫生會利用特製光學顯微鏡，直接檢查子宮頸、陰道及陰道口（外陰）。陰道鏡會將子宮頸及陰道表面的影像放大十至四十倍，期間醫生會用藥水使陰道組織變潤滑，再進行陰道鏡檢查，從受影響範圍抽取一小撮組織樣本作病理分析，全程一般需時約五至十分鐘。

檢查會否引致出血及痛楚？
進行活組織檢查時，您可能會有輕微不適、子宮抽搐或被捏的感覺（特別是進行活組織檢查時）。完成活組織檢查後或會輕微出血，或需在數天使用衛生棉，大部份女士都能夠接受檢查帶來的不適，可以在不需要全身麻醉的情況下進行此檢查。

檢查有沒有風險？
這是一項非常安全的檢查程序。除非可能有輕微出血及無重大風險（特別是進行活組織檢查期間），感染的風險微乎其微。

檢查前該作何準備？
應避免在預約時間前二十四小時灌洗陰道、使用陰道藥物、放入衛生棉條或進行性行為。

檢查會否影響生育？
不會，醫生只會在子宮頸抽取極少量組織作活組織檢查，對日後懷孕不會構成任何影響。

檢查完成後該注意什麼？
一般而言，子宮頸活組織檢查後一至二週內，請避免進行性行為、灌洗陰道及將衛生棉條放入陰道，詳情請遵照醫生指示。若有異常出血的情況，請聯絡醫生。

何時才收到陰道鏡檢查的結果？
醫生一般可於檢查後一星期內取得病理報告。您應與醫生預約，在檢查後一至兩星期覆診，商討檢查結果及是否需要進一步治療。

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