

# Colposcopy Examination



The Portland Hospital  
for Women and Children

## What is a Colposcopy?

A Colposcopy is a simple and painless procedure that is used to enable the doctor to look at the cervix (neck of the womb) with a microscope. No part of the microscope itself enters the vagina.

Normally you will be asked to undergo this investigation if you have had a smear test showing an abnormal result.

## Preparing for your Examination

It is not possible for this examination to be undertaken if you have a period on the day of your appointment. Please telephone us for an alternative date and time should this situation arise.

You will always be asked for the date of the first day of your last period, so please have this information handy.

## During your Examination

A repeat smear may be taken. The neck of the womb is stained with various solutions including iodine.

## After your Examination

You will experience a brown discharge for a couple of days, but this is quite normal.

Sometimes, it is necessary to take biopsies. This should not cause too much discomfort but a small amount of bloody discharge may follow for a couple of days. It is advisable to avoid intercourse for 48 hours afterwards.

After Colposcopy your doctor will discuss your case with you and there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions.

## Contact

If you need advice please contact your Consultant or call The Portland Hospital on 020 7390 8083/4 between Monday and Friday from 8am to 8pm and Saturday 8am to 1pm. For out of hours enquiries call the Gynaecology Unit on 020 7390 8180 / 8102 or the Duty Sister.

## Disclaimer

Whilst this leaflet aims to provide you with useful advice and information it must be noted that it should only act as a guideline. Should you have any further concerns about this procedure, it is advisable that you discuss it with your Consultant.

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