



**Wirral University  
Teaching Hospital**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Endometrial Biopsy

(Information & aftercare)

## **What is an endometrial biopsy?**

A biopsy is a sample of tissue, in this case taken from the lining of your womb (endometrium). Your biopsy will be examined under a microscope to look for abnormalities. You may have had abnormal bleeding or a scan that indicated an abnormality.

A thin flexible instrument (like a straw) called a Pipelle is inserted through the neck of the womb (cervix) and sucks away a small sample of the womb lining.

## **Does it hurt?**

This procedure can cause unpleasant period type pains, but these should not last for long. As described above you may need simple pain relief over the next few hours after the biopsy. You may also experience some bleeding.

## **How long does the bleeding last?**

Usually bleeding settles fairly quickly to become a dark or brown discharge. Sometimes this can persist for up to three weeks.

It is normal to experience some tummy cramps and even some small clots after the procedure, but please see your GP as you may need antibiotics if:

- the bleeding becomes very heavy
- the pain becomes very severe
- you have an unpleasant smelling discharge
- you develop a fever (high temperature)

## **What painkillers should I use?**

You are advised to get supplies of whatever painkillers you find useful – for most people we recommend a combination of

- Paracetamol 1g four to six hourly with a maximum of four doses in 24 hours, together with
- Ibuprofen 400mg six to eight hourly with maximum of three doses in 24 hours providing you can tolerate them and do not have any contraindications or allergies to them

## **When can I resume normal activities?**

You can get back to normal quickly and doing so means your recovery should be faster. It is safe to have a bath or shower after the procedure, but you should avoid sexual intercourse until the bleeding or discharge has stopped.

You can return to normal exercise and work as soon as you feel well, but you may find you need a little time off to recover.

## **When do I get my period again?**

If you have regular periods, they should return to normal within 4-6 weeks, but this does vary.

## **Will I get notified of my results?**

Yes, we will write to you when we have the report. This is usually within 6 weeks.

If we have sent off an urgent biopsy, the results will usually be available within 3 weeks. If we need to discuss your result you may receive a telephone call or a face-to-face appointment instead.

## **Useful Phone Numbers & Further Information**

### **Gynaecology ward**

(for urgent help or advice 24/7)

0151 604 7132

### **Gynaecology Assessment Unit**

(for urgent help or advice Mon-Fri 9-6pm)

0151 604 7450

### **Gynaecology clerks**

(they can put you through to the Specialist Nurses)

0151 604 7043

This leaflet is available in large print, Braille and on tape.  
Please contact 0151 604 7289 if calling from outside the  
Hospital and x2761 if calling from inside the Hospital.



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