

LEEP, LLETZ or cone biopsy procedure

Going home after a general anaesthetic



the women's
the royal women's hospital

This information is for those who have had a LEEP (loop electrosurgical excision), LLETZ (large loop excision of the transformation zone) or cone biopsy procedure under a general anaesthetic.

For the first 48 hours after the procedure

- Make sure that you get adequate rest.
- No heavy lifting or straining.
- Gently ease back into normal activities over the next few days.

When you have had a general anaesthetic

- Please take care when walking and moving about as it is normal to feel light-headed after anaesthetic and pain medications
- Do not drive a car
- Do not drink alcohol
- Do not operate machinery or electrical appliances that can cause injury
- Do not sign any legal documents.

What to expect after you go home

- It is normal to experience period-like cramping. This may last a few days. It is usually relieved by over-the-counter medicines such as ibuprofen, paracetamol, or the usual pain medication that you take for your period.
- It is normal to have a blood-stained discharge or black, gritty discharge for up to four weeks following treatment. You may notice a change to your period, it may be early, late, or missed completely. It may be light or heavy. If you are taking the oral contraceptive pill, you should continue to take it as usual.

Be aware of signs of infection

These include:

- smelly discharge
- high temperature
- sweating
- severe or increasing pain
- increased vaginal bleeding.

If you have these symptoms see your local doctor or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.

Allow your cervix to heal

For the first four weeks after your procedure, you should not:

- have vaginal intercourse
- use tampons
- have a bath
- go swimming.

This will help allow your cervix to heal.

After the procedure

Follow-up is essential. You will have an appointment in the Dysplasia Clinic 10 months after your surgery. Treatment is effective, however there is a small risk of further abnormal Pap tests and an ongoing or recurrent problem on your cervix.

A letter with details of your Dysplasia Clinic review appointment will be sent to you.

If you are unable to attend your appointment and need to reschedule or change your address, update your details by calling the appointment line on (03) 8345 3695.

Your results

Results are available four weeks after the procedure. Call the Dysplasia Unit Nurse on Wednesday between 12.30 pm and 4.15pm.

If we are not there to answer your call, leave a message including your name, hospital number and telephone number so that we can return your call.

T: (03) 8345 3548

(Monday to Friday only)

Family Violence Support

1800 Respect National Helpline

Support for people impacted by sexual assault, domestic or family violence and abuse.

T: 1800 737 732 (24-hour support service)

W: 1800respect.org.au

Do you need an interpreter?



If you need an interpreter, remember you can ask for one.