Pipelle biopsy

Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

This leaflet gives you advice and information following your pipelle biopsy.

What is a pipelle biopsy?

It is a procedure to take a small sample (biopsy) from the lining of your uterus. The doctor will first carry out an examination of your vagina and cervix using a speculum. The biopsy is then taken by inserting a thin straw-like tube (pipelle) through your vagina and cervix into the uterus. This takes just a few seconds. The sample is then sent to the hospital laboratory for testing.

What are the risks of a pipelle biopsy?

It is common to have a small amount of bleeding for 48 hours after this procedure. We advise that you wear a panty-liner during this time, not tampons. Some women experience period-like pain for a few hours. This can be treated with paracetamol or ibuprofen. Rare complications include, prolonged bleeding, infection, or damage to the uterus.

How do I get the result?

Your gynaecologist will write to you and your GP with the results of the biopsy. This will take approximately 4 weeks. If you have not received a letter after this time, please contact the clinical admin team (CAT 6) on **0118 322 7281** or email rbb-tr.cat6@nhs.net If you require any further treatment or a follow-up appointment, we will discuss this in full with you.

After the procedure

You won't need time off work; you can carry out all your normal activities, including exercise. You should avoid sex until the bleeding or discharge has stopped completely. If your bleeding becomes very heavy, please contact the Emergency Gynaecology Clinic on **0118 322 7181**. If you develop a smelly discharge, this could mean you have a mild infection. Please contact your GP surgery for further advice.

Contact us

If you have any further questions or concerns following your pipelle biopsy, please call our Gynaecology reception on **0118 322 7191** where the staff will be happy to help you. If you have any urgent concerns following your procedure please contact us on **0118 322 7181**.

To find out more about our Trust visit www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

S Philip, Consultant Obs & Gynae, January 2019
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