Colposcopy and Lletz Biopsy
(Large Loop Excision of the Transformational Zone)

A Guide for Patients
Women’s Health

We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.

To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18001.

Ashford Hospital
London Road
Ashford, Middlesex
TW15 3AA
Tel: 01784 884488

St. Peter’s Hospital
Guildford Road
Chertsey, Surrey
KT16 0PZ.
Tel: 01932 872000

Website: www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk

Patients first • Personal responsibility • Passion for excellence • Pride in our team
Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Experience Team on 01932 723553 or email asp-tr.patient.advice@nhs.net. If you remain concerned, the team can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.
Contact Details

If you have any questions, please contact your GP.

Alternatively you can call:
Colposcopy Office, Abbey Wing, St. Peter's Hospital
Tel: **01932 722200**

**Office Hours:** 09:00 – 15:30 hrs (Monday to Friday)

If the office is unattended, you may leave a message on the answer phone. This call will be returned as soon as possible.

Or you can call the Colposcopy clinic:
Tel: **01932 723984**

Useful information

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)
[www.bsccep.co.uk](http://www.bsccep.co.uk)
[www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk](http://www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk)
[www.jostrust.org.uk](http://www.jostrust.org.uk)

Colposcopy and Lletz Treatment

**LLETZ stands for “Large Loop Excision of the Transformational Zone”**

You have had a LLETZ treatment today where a small piece of tissue (approximately 1cm by 1cm) from your cervix was removed to take away the abnormal cells. These cells are not cancerous, but your smear has shown that there are high grade pre-cancerous changes.

This means that they could develop into cancer if left untreated or unmonitored.

The removed tissue is sent to the laboratory for routine analysis. The pathologist will report on the type of abnormality present in the loop specimen. You should get the result by letter in 4 weeks. If you have not heard from us after this time, please telephone the colposcopy co-ordinators on **01932 722200**.

You and your GP will receive a letter informing you of the result and any follow-up appointment.

You may drive following your treatment today, unless advised otherwise by the colposcopist.

You may have slight period like pains, take the usual pain relief medication for the first 24 hours e.g. Ibuprofen, paracetamol, if you have no contraindications to these tablets. They are available from any chemist without a prescription.
Immediately afterwards you may experience light bleeding and / or brown stained discharge. This should not be heavier than a period.

Therefore, please bring a panty liner to your appointment.

You can expect a watery vaginal discharge, sometimes with dark specks which may last for 4-6 weeks following treatment. This is part of the healing process. It should stop and get back to “normal” as soon as the cervix heals.

To give your cervix time to heal, you are advised to:

- Avoid using tampons for 4 weeks.
- Abstain from vaginal intercourse for 4 weeks.
- Avoid swimming for 2 weeks.
- Continue normal activities, including light exercise and work.
- Although there are no known health grounds for avoiding travel following treatment, overseas medical attention for complications arising from the treatment may not be covered by insurance. Please check with your insurance before you travel.
- There may be a temporary change in menstrual pattern following loop excision. Your periods may be slightly heavier and may last longer than usual.

If you experience any heavy vaginal bleeding, offensive smelling discharge or feeling unwell, you should see your GP or a doctor at the nearest Walk-in-Center.

The GP / Doctor can check for any signs of infection and that healing is progressing. Occasionally antibiotics are prescribed to assist the healing process.

We will ask you to return to the colposcopy clinic for a cervical (smear) test and HPV test in 6 months. Depending on the results of these tests, your clinician will decide whether you need further appointment or whether you should be discharged back to your GP for a cervical (smear) test in 3/5 years. The appropriate appointment will be sent to you.