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REMOVAL OF CERVICAL POLYP

Excisional Biopsy of Endocervical Polyp

A cervical polyp is a benign growth occurring in the glands of the cervix, arising inside the canal of the cervix. They are usually benign, noncancerous growths.

These polyps may cause bleeding following intercourse, may be associated with bleeding between menstrual periods, and they may cause cramping. Polyps of the cervix may also be identified on routine gyn exam in an asymptomatic woman.

The procedure to remove the polyp is as follows: A vaginal speculum is placed in the same fashion as when a PAP smear is obtained. The cervix is cleansed with antiseptic solution. The stalk of the polyp is then snipped or transected. This usually feels like a mild cramping sensation or less. (In other words, the usual discomfort level is minimal). To prevent significant bleeding after the procedure, a chemical cauterizing agent is placed at the base of the polyp. This means that after the procedure, you can expect to see a little blood and a little bit of grey/black/brown discharge, the latter caused by the cauterizing chemical. Following removal of the polyp, refrain from anything in the vagina (tampons, douching, intercourse, tub baths) until you have had no discharge and no bleeding for three full days. If needed, Motrin, Aleve, or Tylenol can be taken after the procedure to alleviate cramps.

Risks of the procedure: bleeding, infection, recurrence of polyp, discomfort. Benefits of procedure: enables definitive diagnosis, may alleviate symptoms. Alternatives: not removing polyp or removing polyp under anesthesia.

