

LOOP ELECTROSURGICAL EXCISION PROCEDURE (LEEP)

YOUR EXAMINATION

Loop electrosurgical excision procedure (LEEP) is used to treat cervical lesions in women who have had abnormal Pap test or cervical biopsy results. The screening and treatment for these abnormal cells are intended to prevent cervical cancer. Electric current passes through a diathermic loop, the small wire loop instrument used by the physician to remove and collect the abnormal cells.

BEFORE THE PROCEDURE

- You must not be pregnant on the day of the procedure. Use a birth control method until your appointment. The use of an intrauterine device (IUD) is not problematic. If you do not use any birth control method, take a pregnancy test on the morning of the procedure.
- Leave your jewels and piercings at home.
- You may be accompanied if you so wish. Your companion may remain with you at all times.

LEEP PROCEDURE

- You will lie on your back with your legs raised in the gynecological position.
- The nurse will affix a dispersive electrode to your thigh.
- The physician will disinfect and administer an injection to anesthetize the cervix. At the time of the injection, you may experience increased cardiac frequency and trembling of the legs. These are benign side-effects of the medication. These symptoms are normal and last only for a few minutes. Stay calm and take deep breaths.
- The physician will examine the cervix. He will insert the diathermic loop and gently remove the abnormal cells. The procedure will last only a few minutes. Remember to stay still during the procedure to prevent vaginal injuries.
- The physician will perform ball cauterization and apply a brownish paste (Monsel's) to stop any bleeding.

AFTER THE PROCEDURE

- You will remain under observation for approximately 20 minutes before you receive your discharge to ensure you are well.
- Wear a sanitary pad immediately after the procedure and for the next few days. It is normal to have bleeding after the procedure. You might also have brownish-blackish vaginal discharge, which is residue from the paste (Monsel's) applied during the procedure. Discharge and bleeding can last up to 2 weeks after the procedure.
- If you have abdominal cramps, you can take acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin). Follow the dose indicated on the packaging.

OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS

- Limit the amount of high-intensity exercise (CrossFit, weight lifting, impacts). You can engage in light to moderate exercise without any restrictions.
- You can shower on the day of the procedure.

FOR 3 TO 4 WEEKS

- Do not insert anything into the vagina: no tampon, no creams, no ovula, no menstrual cup (Diva Cup), no sex toys, no vaginal douche.
- Do not have sexual intercourse involving penetration.

WHEN TO CONSULT

Do you have one of the following symptoms? Go the emergency department of the nearest hospital OR where you had your LEEP:

- Profuse bleeding (more than 1 full pad per hour for 3 consecutive hours).
- Severe abdominal pain that cannot be relieved with acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin).
- Temperature above 38°C.

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR HEALTH STATUS



Contact the nurse clinician at the colposcopy department by dialling 819-346-1110, Ext. 14517, Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Outside regular department hours, dial 8-1-1 for Info-Santé.

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Revision and layout

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