

Your Colposcopy Procedure - Cold Coagulation of the Cervix

What is Cold Coagulation?

This is a method of destroying abnormal cells with the use of a heated probe.

What are the benefits of having Cold Coagulation?

This procedure destroys any abnormal cells on your cervix, which helps to reduce the risk of developing cervical cancer in the future. It is a quick, non-invasive procedure, which can be carried out for you as an outpatient.

How is it performed?

A speculum is inserted into the vagina so that the cervix is visible (similar to when you have a cervical sampling test).

What sort of anaesthetic will I need?

Before your treatment you will be asked if you would prefer to have a local anaesthetic which numbs the cervix (neck of the womb) so that you do not feel any pain.

A heated probe is applied to the cervix for approximately 20-40 seconds. This can vary between women.

The procedure should not be painful but may cause some mild discomfort similar to a period-like cramp. Paracetamol should relieve any discomfort you may experience after the procedure.

NB: Do not take more than 8 paracetamol tablets in a 24-hour period.

What should I expect after the procedure?

It is normal to have some blood-stained/watery discharge from your vagina for up to 4 weeks. This is part of the normal healing process. Therefore, if you are due to go on holiday within a few weeks of your treatment please inform the nursing staff.



Do not use tampons (instead use pads or panty liners) or have sex for 4 weeks after the procedure.

Do not go swimming or use a Jacuzzi for 4 weeks after the procedure.

You should be able to return to work and normal activities the day after the procedure.

You can have a bath or shower as normal.

Your periods may be different straight after the treatment but should soon settle into their usual pattern.

Are there any risks to this procedure?

Complications are very rare but you may get an infection in the area we treated.

If you notice a discharge that smells unpleasant, you may have an infection. Please speak to your GP or colposcopy clinic for advice as you may need antibiotics.

Should you have any worries following this procedure, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Doncaster Royal Infirmary

Gynaecology Outpatient Clinic on **01302 642808**

Ward G5 after 5.00pm on any day on **01302 642650**

Bassetlaw Hospital

Gynaecology Outpatient Clinic on **01909 500990 Ext 2214**

Ward B6 on **01909 500990 Ext 2257**

Patient Experience Team

The team are available to offer advice or information on healthcare matters.

Their office is in the Main Foyer (Gate 4) of Doncaster Royal Infirmary. Contact can be made either in person, by telephone or email. The team can visit inpatients on all Trust sites.

The contact details are: Telephone: 01302 553140 or 0800 028 8059

Email: pals.dbh@dbh.nhs.uk.

