



LEEP Explanation

United Health Professionals, Inc.

304-697-2035

Definition:

The results of your recent testing indicates your need for Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure (LEEP). **LEEP** is used in conjunction with other tests such as Pap smears and colposcopy to diagnose and treat problems of the female reproductive system. This procedure may be performed in the office, avoiding hospitalization and more expensive surgery.

LEEP is the use of a thin wire loop to remove the abnormal cells on your cervix. Electrical current is passed through the loop, which allows it to cut away a thin layer of surface cells.

Procedure:

You will lie on your back with your feet in stirrups just as if you are having a regular pelvic exam. Your health care provider will insert a speculum that is similar to one used during other vaginal exams. Your cervix will be numbed with medication to keep you comfortable. A solution will be placed on the cervix to make the abnormal cells easier to see. The procedure is brief. You may feel a dull ache or slight cramping during the procedure. After the procedure a medicated paste may be placed on the cervix to control bleeding. The tissue will then be sent to a laboratory for evaluation.

Follow-up:

Do not have intercourse, douche or use tampons until you have been cleared by your health care provider to do so. Avoid heavy lifting and vigorous exercise for at least two weeks. This will reduce the risk of infection and allow your cervix the appropriate time to heal.

It is not uncommon to experience some vaginal bleeding and some brownish black vaginal discharge. You may also experience some mild cramping.

If bleeding occurs that is heavier than a period, if you develop a foul smelling discharge, or if you develop a temperature above 100.4 degrees, call the office immediately and ask to speak to your nurse.

Follow-up appointments are essential to your health. Please keep all follow-up appointments recommended by your health care provider.

Concerns:

Your health is important to us. If you are concerned or have questions, please do not hesitate to ask. You can reach our office at **304-697-2035**. After hours, the same number reaches our answering service. If we do not return your call in a reasonable amount of time, please call again or go to the emergency room if you feel it is necessary.