

# COLPOSCOPY

To determine the reason for an abnormal Pap test

Pre-procedure: Schedule this at a time that you will not be on your period. You will be able to drive after the procedure.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

### **During**

Cervix is viewed with a microscope in the office. Abnormal cells show up with the microscope and if they are suspected a biopsy will be done. Sometimes a colposcopy may be negative and a biopsy is not needed.

A speculum is used so the cervix can be seen. This feels pretty much the same as during a regular check-up when a Pap test is taken. If a biopsy is needed it feels like a brief pinch or cramp and you will be told before a biopsy is taken.

### **Afterwards**

You will have some light bleeding and/or discharge. The discharge may be brown or black and in “chunks” from medication applied to the cervix to prevent bleeding. You will need to wear a minipad and change it several times a day for 2-3 days. Please do not douche, use a tampon or have sex for 24 hours after a biopsy. It is not necessary to miss any days of work or school due to this procedure.

## FOLLOW-UP

Biopsy reports are ready within a few days. If treatment is needed we will schedule it when we call to discuss your results. If biopsies are negative, your follow-up will be decided on a case-by-case basis.