

**NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde**

**Gynaecology Services**

**Vulval Biopsy**



Helpful Measures

**What is a vulval biopsy?**

A biopsy is a small area of skin which has been removed from the affected area of your vulva. It will be sent to the pathology laboratory to be looked at under a microscope to help confirm your diagnosis and help plan the best treatment option for you.

* You will require to wear a sanitary pad as initially you will have light blood stained discharge.
* You may be given as piece of non-adherent dressing to wear on top of the pad to prevent the pad sticking to the stitches. This can be disposed of with the pad when it is changed.
* Keep the area clean and dry. You may bathe or shower as normal after 24 hours. Do not use any lotions for at least 24 hours.
* Some discomfort may be experienced after the local anaesthetic wears off; this can be relieved with simple pain relief, for example paracetamol.
* The stitches are dissolvable. If they become tight or uncomfortable in 5-7 days, please contact your practice nurse to have them removed if needed.
* You may want to wait for at least 2 weeks to allow the skin to heal prior to resuming sexual intercourse.

**Advice following a biopsy**

If the biopsy was taken in clinic, most likely this was done after infiltrating local anaesthetic into the area. The skin would then have a small cur to remove a small piece of skin (approximately the size of a match-stick head). Usually a small stitch is used to close the skin. These stitches are dissolvable, and usually do not need to be removed.

**How has the biopsy been taken?**

**If you are concerned about your skin following your procedure you should contact your GP in the first instance.**

**Stobhill Gynaecology Clinic (Clinic F)**

0141 355 1209

**Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Gynaecology Ward 56A**

0141 211 4433

**Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Gynaecology Ward 49**

0141 201 2282

**Royal Alexandra Hospital, Gyanecology Ward**

0141 314 7032

**Useful contact numbers**

You will receive a letter or a phone call from your clinic doctor with the result of your biopsy.

Please make sure you let us know of any change of name, address or telephone number.

**How will I receive the results?**