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**Montgomery Gynecology**

**215-444-3411**

**PATIENT INSTRUCTION FOR COLPOSCOPY**

Colposcopy is the magnified inspection of the surface of a woman’s genital area, including the cervix, vagina, and vulva, using a light source and a binocular microscope – a colposcope. It is used to evaluate potentially cancerous areas, typically after an abnormal pap smear. A biopsy of an abnormal area may be taken during the procedure.

The following are instructions regarding the colposcopy and cervical biopsy. If you have any questions concerning the test, please **contact the office at 215-444-3411.**

* Please call the office to cancel your procedure if you are bleeding. Do not douche, use tampons or use vaginal medicines for 24 hours before the biopsy.
* You will empty your bladder just before your procedure.
* Colposcopy takes approximately 15-20 minutes to perform. If biopsy of cervix is performed, you may feel a sharp pinch followed by cramping. Some women feel dizzy and sick to their stomachs. This is called a vasovagal reaction. This feeling will go away after the biopsy. Occasionally, you may experience some mild cramping for the remainder of the day.
* Medication used to stop bleeding from biopsy site may be seen as dark vaginal discharge (resembling coffee ground) on the pad.
* It is common to experience spotting or light bleeding after the biopsy lasting 3-14 days. It is important that you try to distinguish the onset of your next period from the spotting or bleeding that the biopsy may have caused.
* The patient should avoid sexual intercourse, vaginal medications, or tampons until the bleeding stops, usually for 2 weeks.
* You should be able to drive yourself to and from the office and return to work immediately.
* If you experience pelvic pain for more than 24 hours or excessive bleeding, or begin running a temperature above 100.6 F after the procedure, please call our office.
* You should call our office 7-10 days after your biopsy was performed to learn the results of the study.