

Endometrial Biopsy

You have undergone a procedure called endometrial biopsy. This sheet is to give you information about the procedure.

Purpose

The biopsy takes a small sample of the lining of the womb. It will then be examined in the laboratory. It is used to investigate abnormal vaginal bleeding, and particularly to exclude any cancerous changes. By taking the biopsy we get a lot of the information that we used to get by performing a dilatation and curettage ("D and C" or "scrape" of the womb) under general anaesthetic.

What symptoms should I expect now?

A lot of women experience mild to moderate discomfort during the endometrial biopsy procedure. For many women this settles within minutes but it can last a few hours. About a third of women experience some discomfort for over 24 hours, but the majority do not need to take pain killers. Some women do need pain killers and may have been offered them in clinic. You can take more at home if you need them.

Most women experience some vaginal bleeding following the biopsy. For the majority this lasts a few hours or days but a quarter of women will bleed for more than one week.

Can I use tampons?

Yes, you can use tampons.

How do I get the results of the biopsy?

You and your GP will receive the result by post. Alternatively, if another clinic appointment has been made for you in the near future your result will be given to you then.