

Gynaecological loop electrosurgical excision procedure (LEEP)

The loop electrosurgical excision procedure (LEEP) is used to remove abnormal cervical tissue.

The appointment

An appointment letter will be sent to you, or an appointment is made during a previous appointment at the outpatient clinic. **Performing the procedure during menstrual bleeding is avoided.** Contact the outpatient clinic if you are experiencing heavy bleeding.

If you use **birth control pills, continue using them without pause** so that there will be at least 2, preferably 4, weeks without bleeding after the procedure. You can ask for advice on how to delay your period from the unit responsible for your care.

The LEEP treatment

Take pain medication one hour before arriving for the procedure. The treatment does not require medical leave or postoperative observation at the hospital.

The **LEEP** is performed using a colposcope and vinegar or iodine solution to locate the abnormal cells, after which the cervix is numbed with anesthetic. The abnormal area is removed using an electric loop. You may feel slight sensation similar to menstrual pain during the procedure. The removed tissue is sent to a pathologist for a closer study.

At home after the treatment

You might still experience some pain at home which you can manage by taking over the counter pain medication, available from pharmacies.

It is normal to experience light bleeding after the **LEEP procedure**. The bleeding will later become brown in color. The treatment area will develop a **scab, which will detach 1 to 2 weeks after the procedure, and you can also experience heavier bleeding.** Avoid swimming, bathing in a bathtub, sitz baths, intercourse and using tampons or menstrual cup until your next period due to **a risk of infection and bleeding.**

Follow-up

You will receive your results as previously agreed with your care provider. Possible follow-up treatment is arranged on an individual basis.

Contact the unit responsible for your care if the post-treatment bleeding becomes heavy or develops a foul smell, or you experience lower abdominal pain or fever.