



### Follow-Up Appointments

We will see you again in the cervical health clinic in **6 months**. Our clerk will mail you your appointment information.

### Pap Smears

You will have a pap smear done as part of your follow-up appointment. You do not need one done by your family doctor until you are no longer getting treatment or follow-up at the cervical health clinic.

### Problems to Watch For



See your family doctor or primary health care provider for:

- vaginal discharge with a bad smell
- chills or a fever of 38.5° or higher



Go to the nearest **Emergency Room (ER)** if you have **heavy bleeding** (you are soaking 1 pad per hour)

### Contact Information:

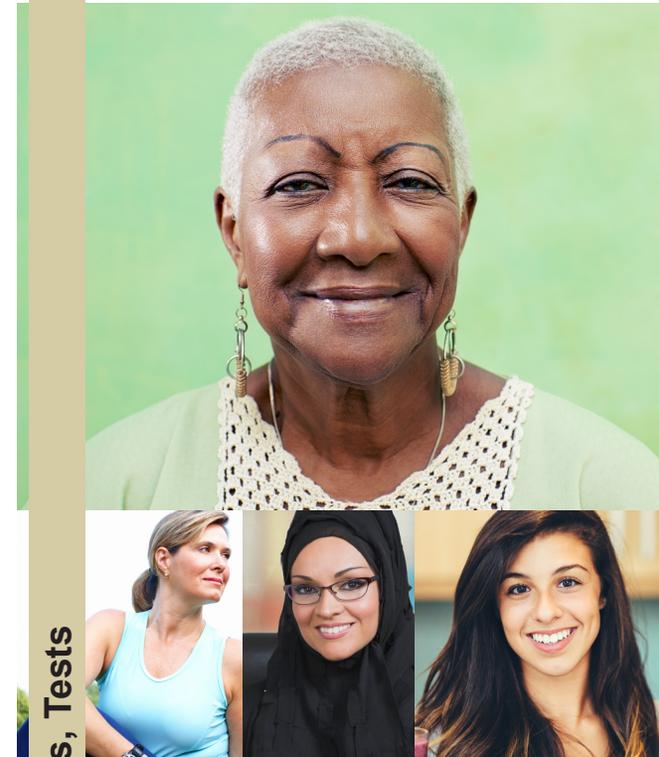
**Chinook Regional Hospital**  
Breast and Cervical Health Program

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# Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure (LEEP)

for people having the procedure in  
the **Operating Room (OR)**



Procedures, Infusions, Tests

**Chinook Regional Hospital**  
Breast and Cervical Health Program  
Lethbridge, AB



## What is LEEP?

LEEP (Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure) uses a thin wire loop with electrical energy flowing through it to remove the abnormal cells (**dysplasia**) from the cervix. These abnormal cells are **pre-cancer** and must be treated so that they do not turn into cancer cells.

In most cases (9 out of 10 women), LEEP removes all of the abnormal cells.

## Important to Know

**Menstruation.** This procedure **can** be done, even if you are menstruating. **Please do not cancel your appointment if you get your menstrual period.**

**Pregnancy.** LEEP **cannot** be done if you are pregnant. Before the procedure, you will be asked to give a urine sample for a pregnancy test and the nurse will ask you for the date of your last menstrual period.



If you have an appointment for LEEP and become pregnant, call the Colposcopy clerk to let them know right away.

They will need to rebook your appointment.

## Preparing for LEEP

### Driving

Arrange to have someone bring you to the hospital and take you home after.

### Time

You will be at the hospital for about 2 hours.

### Instructions:

We will give you instructions over the phone or in person about when you are allowed to eat and drink before surgery.

**Your procedure may be cancelled if you do not follow these instructions exactly.**

### Where:

Chinook Regional Hospital

### Questions:

If you have any other questions or concerns, write them down and bring the list to your appointment. We will be happy to answer these for you.

### Allergies

Tell your nurse if you have an allergy to any anesthetics.

## After LEEP

It will take your cervix 3 weeks to heal.

**During this time, do not:**

- use tampons
- douche
- have sexual intercourse
- swim or go in a hot tub
- put anything in the vagina

When your bleeding stops, you can go back to your usual activities. **Physical activity and exercise is okay.**

### What to expect:

- You may notice brownish-black vaginal discharge or some light vaginal bleeding after the procedure. This usually lasts for 2-3 weeks. This is normal.

### You can:

- take a mild pain reliever such as acetaminophen (Tylenol®) or ibuprofen (Advil®).
- return to work the day after the procedure.

If you have any questions, call the cervical health clinic (phone number on back page).

