

## **PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET VULVAR BIOPSY**

Preparation-There is no preparation necessary prior to the vulvar biopsy. It can be performed anytime during the menstrual cycle, and will not need to have anyone drive you for your appointment. No pre-biopsy medications are administered. If you want to take an Advil, Aleve, or Motrin ahead of time, you are welcome to do so. The biopsy procedure will only take a few minutes.

Procedure-The area is cleansed with an antiseptic solution and a small amount of local anesthetic is injected around the biopsy site. This portion of the procedure is slightly uncomfortable because the medication burns. This will be much like a local anesthetic you may have had in a dental office. During the remainder of the procedure you may feel movement but should not feel any discomfort.

Once the lesion has been removed some pressure may be applied. Sometimes a chemical substance is applied to the biopsy site to prevent bleeding. If the biopsy site is larger, it may be necessary to place a stitch or two. You may have minimal discomfort after the procedure and taking an over the counter pain medication would be a safe option.

Post biopsy care-You need to keep the biopsy area as clean as possible. Showering that day would be fine, and tub bathing the next day would be fine. Resume swimming or other water activities after the biopsy site has completely healed. You may note that the biopsy site may feel that it has gotten tighter or drawn up some in a day or so after the biopsy. This is not uncommon. If you have any redness or tenderness, applying some over the counter Neosporin or Bacitracin ointment would be appropriate. If you have significant discomfort or fever of 101.4 or greater, you should give our office a call. You can resume sexual activity once you are no longer uncomfortable in this area. You will be able to return to work the day that the biopsy is performed, and you will be able to drive.

Follow up-Your physician will tell you when you should return for an office follow up. The office will notify you by card or by phone once we have the pathology report available. Please give us at least 7 days to receive the results and to call you before you call us. This will help us have time available to inform you as soon as possible once we have received the Pathology report.

Financial-Please call our business office at 936-1007 if you have any questions regarding the charges. There will be an additional charge from the pathology lab that you will receive once the specimen has been processed in the laboratory.