



## Follow-up and Treatment of Abnormal Pap Test

Some of the procedures used to follow-up and/or treat cervical problems are:

- ❑ **Repeat Pap Tests:** Women with an abnormal Pap test will often be told to return for another Pap test in several months. While it may be distressing to wait for that length of time, this is acceptable management because abnormal cervical cells often revert back to normal on their own without any treatment. It is very important to have that repeat Pap test.
- ❑ **Colposcopy:** A procedure in which a woman's cervix is viewed through a specialized piece of equipment that magnifies it many times. A light spray, that smells like vinegar, will help the gynecologist see the cells better. Usually a biopsy is done at the same time.
- ❑ **Laser Surgery:** A laser beam of light is directed at abnormal areas on the cervix causing cells to be destroyed and evaporate.
- ❑ **Cryosurgery:** A probe is inserted into the vagina and rests on the cervix. The cells on the cervical lining are frozen using a probe that is cooled by a special gas.
- ❑ **L.E.E.P.: (Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure):** A procedure in which the whole pre-cancerous area is removed using an electrically charged thin wire loop.
- ❑ **Cone Biopsy:** Usually done under general anesthetic as day surgery. Can also be done by laser surgery. Often recommended for HSIL, if the endocervix (opening of the cervix) is involved.
- ❑ **Hysterectomy:** If the cervical cancer is advanced, this may be a reasonable option for treatment in some cases.

