



**Gynaecology
Outpatients
Colchester Hospital**
Tel: 01206 742659



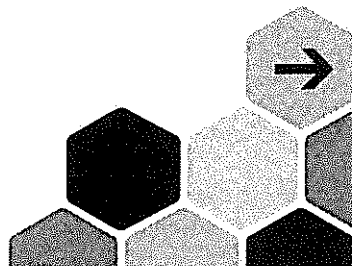
**East Suffolk and
North Essex**
NHS Foundation Trust

Vulval biopsy and aftercare

An examination has suggested that we should take a small skin sample to further explain the symptoms you have been having. You will usually be offered an appointment to come to our Minor Gynaecology Procedure area. This is where we have a special couch to keep you as comfortable as possible. The small area of skin to be sampled will be cleaned with antiseptic solution and some local anaesthetic will be given using a fine needle to numb the area. Following the tissue sample being taken, a fine dissolvable stitch may be used to bring the skin edges together.

After your biopsy

The piece of skin taken will be sent to our pathologists and examined under a microscope to help make a diagnosis. The stitches will dissolve as the area heals and do not need to be removed. If a dressing has been applied over the wound, this can be removed after 24 hours. You can then wash and dry the area as normal after this.



If you experience any slight bleeding from the area, you should apply pressure with a clean handkerchief for a full five minutes. You may feel more comfortable wearing a sanitary pad for a day or two. If the area becomes painful, there may be infection present and you should consult your GP.

If you require any further advice or have any questions before or after the procedure please phone the **Gynaecology Outpatients Department** on **01206 742659**.

We value your feedback

To find out how to give us feedback on your visit or healthcare experience, please visit www.esneft.nhs.uk and search for 'PALS', or speak to a member of staff on the ward or department you are in.

Please ask if you need this leaflet
in an alternative format.

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