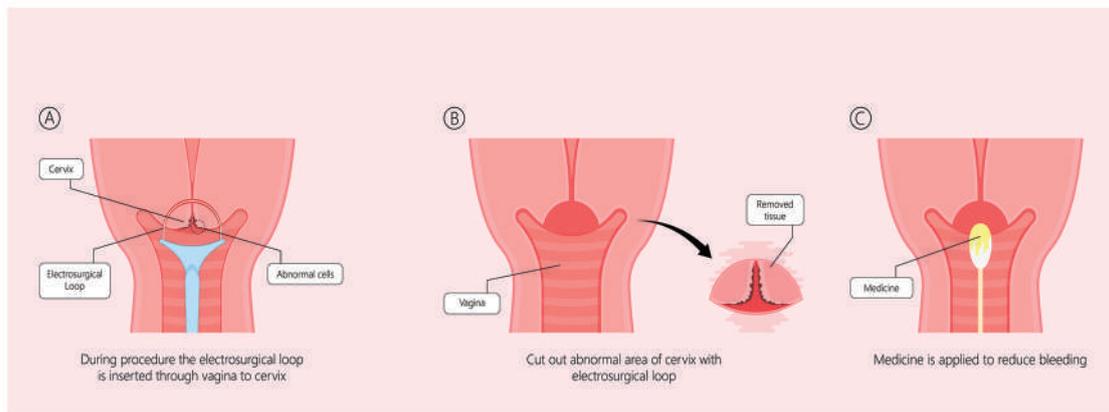
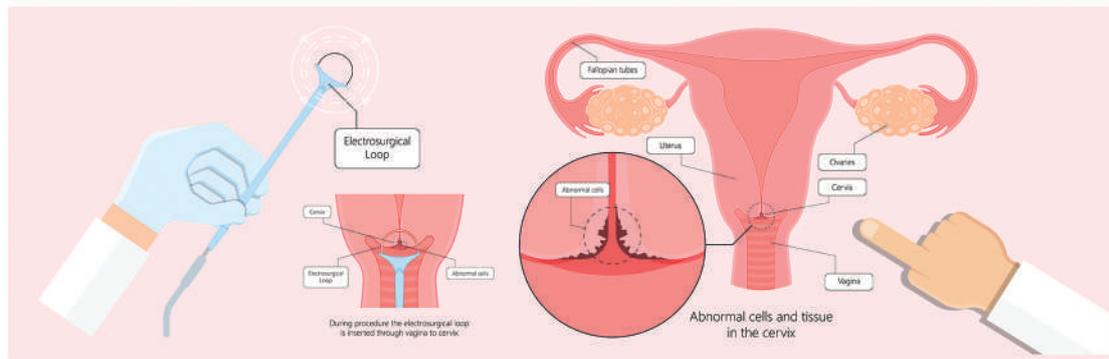


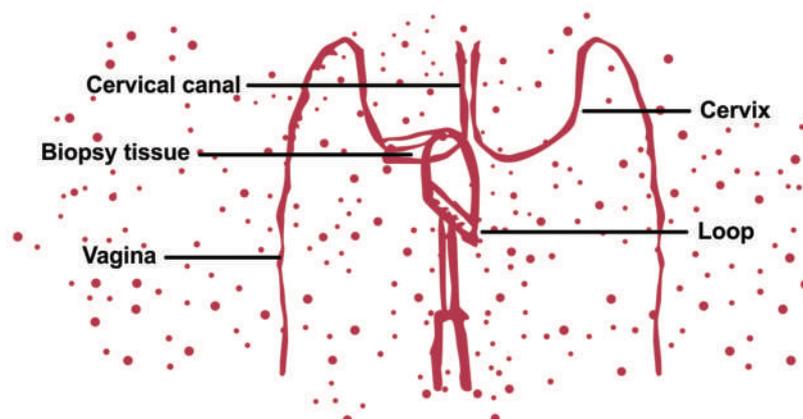
## LLETZ - Large Loop Excision of the Transformation Zone

Your colposcopy has revealed an abnormality on your cervix (neck of womb) which may be a pre-cancerous change and our gynaecologist has recommended that this abnormal area be removed a LLETZ procedure (large loop excision of the transformation zone). A LLETZ procedure removes the abnormal area of your cervix with a hot wire loop. The tissue removed is sent to pathology for diagnosis and confirmation that all the abnormal area has been removed. The LLETZ procedure cures 95% of women with abnormal cervical cells.



### How is LLETZ done?

LLETZ is usually done in the operating theatre under a general anaesthetic or sedation as a day surgery patient. A speculum will be inserted into your vagina to expose your cervix in exactly the same manner as at your colposcopy. Once your cervix has been examined, some local anaesthetic will be injected into your cervix. When the local anaesthetic has worked, the abnormal part of your cervix will be removed using the hot wire loop. The entire LLETZ procedure generally takes less than 15 minutes. About 1% of women treated by LLETZ have experienced bleeding severe enough to require admission to hospital overnight. This risk is no higher than with the other procedure used in the past to treat abnormal cervical cells.



### **Potential complications of LLETZ include:**

Potential complications include discomfort, infection, bleeding, superficial burns to the vagina and cervical stenosis (narrowing of the cervical opening). About 1% of patients develop cervical stenosis. It is usually possible for our gynaecologist to dilate or open up the cervix at a later date if this problem occurs. Currently research suggest that there are probably no increased risks of problems with future fertility or pregnancies.

### **Instructions after the LLETZ procedure:**

Your treated cervix needs time to heal and to be protected from trauma and infection. To do this, please follow these instructions:

**Activity:** You may feel weak and sleepy when you leave hospital, so it is important to rest when you go home. A responsible adult is required to stay with you overnight. We suggest that you continue to rest for the next day to allow yourself time to fully recover from the effects of the anaesthetic or sedation. You may then resume work.

You should not drive a vehicle, operate machinery or make any important decisions (eg; signing important papers) for 24 hours after our operation, since your judgement can be impaired.

Abstain from sexual intercourse for 2 weeks, or until discharge settles.

### **Avoid strenuous activities, sport and jarring movements for 10 days.**

**Vaginal discharge:** Your vaginal discharge may be pink, blood tinged or dark brown/black. You may have spotting or bleeding for 2 to 3 weeks after treatment.

**Discomfort/cramping:** you may have mild to moderate discomfort similar to menstrual cramps. Paracetamol or an anti-inflammatory as directed should be adequate.

Contact Dr Monika Juneja on 8350 0172 or your general practitioner if any of the following occur:

- Fever
- Heavy vaginal bleeding (soaking one pad an hour)
- Severe abdominal pain
- Offensive vaginal discharge

### **Return Appointments:**

As no treatment is 100% effective, is very important to have follow -up after your LLETZ procedure. You will need a repeat cervical screen test at 12 and 24 months after the LLETZ procedure. You will also need regular pap smears for the rest of your life.