

What happens after a colposcopy?

The specialist may recommend the following:

- You return to your regular cervical screening schedule;
- Repeat Pap testing; or
- Repeat colposcopy or other treatment.

Cell changes can often be treated successfully so that cancer does not develop.

The Screening Program for Cervical Cancer (SPCC)

SPCC is a program of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency dedicated to preventing cervical cancer.

The program:

- Provides education about cervical screening and informs women and people with a cervix aged 25-69 when they are due for a Pap test;
- Notifies participants of their Pap and HPV test results; and
- Works with health care providers to support appropriate follow-up of abnormal results.

For more information, please contact the SPCC:

Website: saskcancer.ca/screening

Telephone: **1-800-667-0017**

To continue to receive communication from the SPCC, it is important that you update any address changes.

Contact eHealth by calling **1-800-667-7551**, emailing change@ehealthsask.ca, or online at ehealthsask.ca.



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Understanding Your Cervical Screening Results

Screening Program for Cervical Cancer

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What are the types of Pap test results?

The result of your Pap test can be normal, unsatisfactory, or abnormal.

What does a normal result mean?

A normal result means that the cervical cells appear normal, and no abnormal cell changes were found. You can return to your regular cervical screening schedule.

What does an unsatisfactory result mean?

An unsatisfactory result means the sample collected during your Pap test could not be tested properly. If you have an unsatisfactory result, you must have a repeat Pap test in three months.

What does an abnormal result mean?

An abnormal result means that some of the cells of the cervix look different from normal cells. This does not mean that you have cervical cancer.

What causes an abnormal test result?

An abnormal result is often caused by Human Papillomavirus (HPV). HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection that affects people. HPV causes an infection that will most often clear on its own. However, some infections may lead to precancerous cell changes that could progress to cervical cancer if left untreated.

Some abnormal results could be related to changes like pregnancy, menopause, or an infection.

Following up with your health care provider after an abnormal Pap test result is important.

What happens after an abnormal result?

Your health care provider will contact you for an appointment to discuss your results and any follow-up tests you may need. You may be asked to go for repeat Pap tests or be referred to a specialist for a colposcopy.

What is a colposcopy?

A colposcopy procedure examines the cervix using a microscope called a colposcope. It is performed by a specialist who will look for any abnormal cells on the cervix.

An instrument called a speculum will be inserted into your vagina to allow the cervix to be seen.

Then, a solution will be applied to the cervix to help highlight any abnormal areas. If needed, the specialist will take a small sample of the tissue. The sample will be sent to the lab for examination to help determine if you need further treatment.

