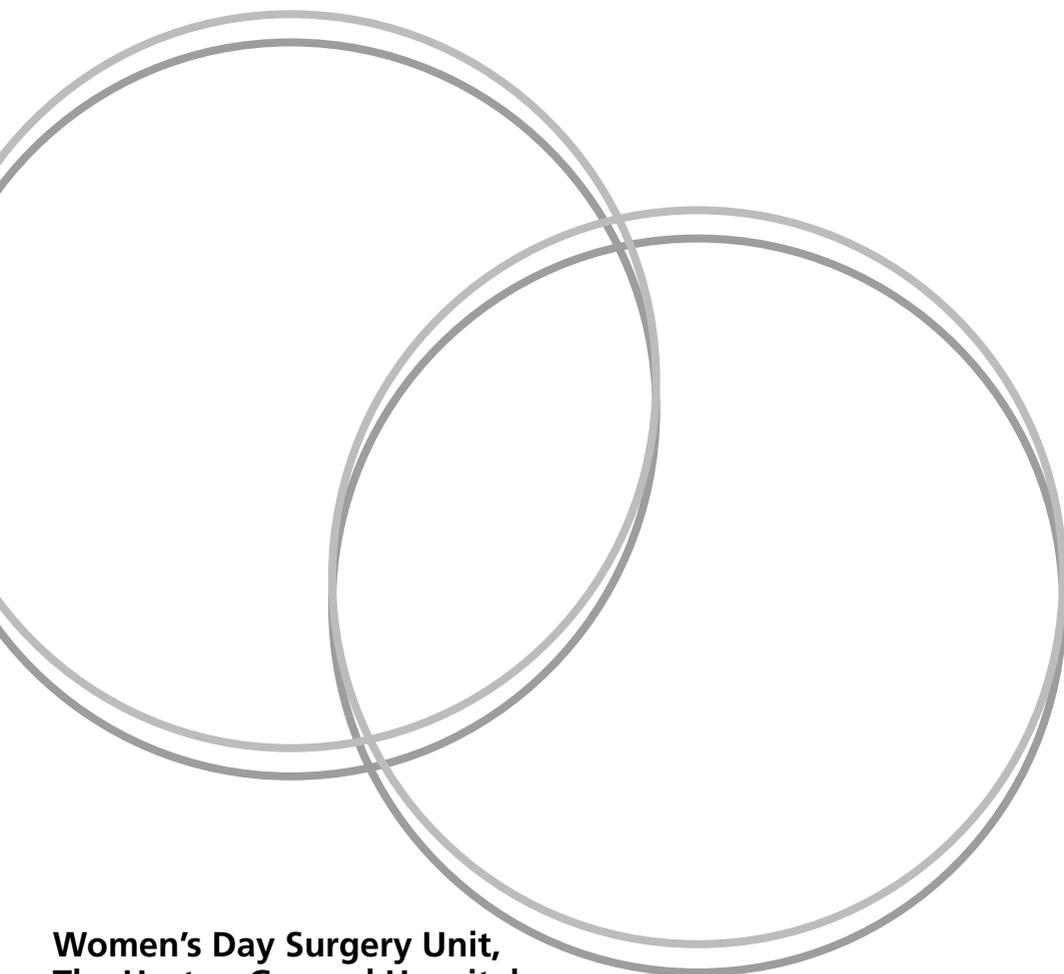




Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Information and advice after a vulval biopsy

Information for patients



**Women's Day Surgery Unit,
The Horton General Hospital**

What is a vulval biopsy?

You have had a vulval biopsy because you have problems such as pain or itching, an ulcer or lump, or blisters or a rash in the vulval area.

A vulval biopsy is the removal of a small sample of tissue from the external area of the female genitalia. Any tissue that is removed is sent to the Pathology Department for examination.

After your surgery

- You may have a bath or shower after 24 hours. You may bath or shower as normal after this time.
- You may experience some mild to moderate pain. This can be relieved by taking painkillers. You may be given painkillers on discharge – if so, please take these as prescribed. Otherwise you may take paracetamol or other similar pain relieving medication.
- For further advice on pain relief after surgery please refer on our discharge leaflets for the specific type of anaesthetic you have had.
- You may experience some bleeding after your operation. To minimise the risk of infection, please use sanitary towels or panty liners – it is advisable not to use tampons until after your next period.
- Please avoid sexual intercourse for approximately 2 weeks to allow healing to take place.
- It is quite normal for the operation site to feel sensitive, and for a small amount of bruising to be present.
- Stitches are usually absorbable, which means they will disappear on their own. If other types of stitches are used you nurse will advise you when to have them removed.

Stitches

Stitches to be removed in days by your
practice nurse on

Results

Your consultant may write to you and your GP with the results of the biopsy. Alternatively, an appointment will be made for you to come back to clinic to discuss the results with your consultant.

Clinic appointment not needed / needed in:

.....

This appointment will be posted to you.

If you have any problems overnight or in the following 72 hours, such as:

- new / fresh or increased bleeding.
- pain that is not controlled with pain killers
- vomiting that prevents you from getting enough fluids
- any concerns passing urine

please contact:

Horton Women's Day Surgery Unit

Tel: **01295 229 383**, Monday - Friday 9am-5pm

The Gynaecology Ward

John Radcliffe Hospital

Contact out of hours

Tel: **01865 222 001** or **01865 222 002**

Let us know your views

If you would like to comment on your Visit to the WDSU please contact us at:

horton.daycase@orh.nhs.uk

Or write to:

Women's Day Surgery Unit

Horton General Hospital

Banbury OX16 9AL

Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

Author: Tracy Gunter, Ward Manager, Horton General Hospital
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Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
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