



Tameside and Glossop
Integrated Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Women Undergoing Cervical Suture

Patient information Leaflet

This information is relevant to women who have been booked for insertion of cervical suture (stitch).

This advice will not address the need for putting in a stitch. If you have any questions or queries about the need to put in a stitch, please ask your consultant.

Following are some the frequently asked questions --

Where will be I admitted?

You will be admitted to the labour ward on the day of operation. Pre-operative assessment will take place on the morning of your operation.

Will I be awake or asleep during operation?

You will meet the anaesthetist and the surgeon performing your operation on the same day as your operation. At this point the anaesthetist will discuss with you the choice of anaesthesia, namely general (where they put you to sleep) or spinal (where you are numb from the waist downwards).

How long will be the operation last?

The procedure usually takes about 30 minutes. You will have a catheter (a tube to drain the bladder), which will be removed later that day.

What should I expect after the operation?

Antibiotics will be given for five days. There will be some bleeding following the procedure, which should settle within 1-2 days followed by some brownish discharge. Sexual intercourse should be avoided for at least two weeks following this procedure; however, you can discuss this with your own Consultant when they see you on the ward.

When can I go home after the operation?

This will vary in every individual case and you should discuss this with your consultant after the operation.

What should I do at home after discharge from hospital?

There is a very small risk of miscarriage for up to two weeks following this procedure, however the risk is small. We would advise you to take things easy and not to do too much strenuous activity.

If you experience any bleeding or pain whilst the stitch is in place then you should ring labour ward for appropriate advice (0161 922 6173). In the majority of cases you will be asked to attend the labour ward for assessment.

When will be the stitch taken out?

The stitch is usually taken out after 37 completed weeks on labour ward. This is a simple procedure and you will not need anaesthesia. Following removal of the stitch you will be allowed home the same day.

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Date Created: July 2007
Date Reviewed February 2018
Reference Number: OBS022
Version: Version 4