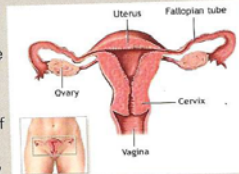


Your Pap Test & Biopsy: What is it?

The Pap Test

The Pap test - also called the pap smear - checks the cells in your cervix, the lower part of the uterus (womb) that opens into the vagina (birth canal). It can tell if you have an infection or abnormal cells that could be precancerous. The pap smear is performed by your health care provider in the form of a scraping, brushing, or smear that is taken from the surface of the vagina or cervix. This sample is sent to the laboratory where it is evaluated by highly trained technicians called cytologists. If an abnormality is detected, your sample will then be evaluated by a pathologist, a physician with specialized training in studying cells and tissue. The appearance of your cells determines whether they are normal, suspicious, or cancerous.



The results of the cytological analysis and any additional studies are available to your health care provider, to other physicians involved in your care, and to you. The microscopic slides and diagnostic reports are stored in the laboratory should you or your physician request additional reports, review, consultation, or second opinion.

Biopsy

If you have a condition that requires a surgical biopsy or excision, your health care provider will submit the sampled tissue for pathological analysis. Your tissue will be examined grossly and microscopically by a pathologist to arrive at an accurate diagnosis and, if necessary, assessment of surgical margins.

Fees

The comprehensive pathology consultation service includes sample transportation, gross examination, slide preparation, review of the slides, and reporting of results to your health care provider. He/she uses the information to treat or manage your condition. A fee is charged for these professional and technical services.

PSA, LLC
handles the billing for
Charlottesville Pathology Associates.
There is a toll free line dedicated to
answering your questions.

1-877-268-0376