



Stanford
HEALTH CARE

Colposcopy

If abnormal cells are found on a Pap smear, further evaluation of your cervix is necessary. The first step is to look at your cervix with a microscope or colposcope. A small piece of tissue may be taken from either the outside of your cervix if an abnormal area is seen or from the internal lining of your cervix to determine whether there are abnormal cells here. These procedures are called a cervical biopsy or endocervical curettage. If either a biopsy or endocervical curettage reveals precancerous tissue, a procedure to treat the precancerous cells may be necessary.