#### Contact details

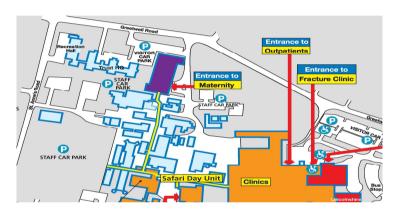
If you have any questions about the procedure please contact the Unit on:

Telephone: 01522 573118

9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday

Please Note: the Clinic at Lincoln Hospital is located in the

Maternity Wing.



#### References

If you require a full list of references for this leaflet please email patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk

The Trust endeavours to ensure that the information given here is accurate and impartial.



If you require this information in another language, large print, audio (CD or tape) or braille, please email the Patient Information team at patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk





## **Post Menopausal Bleed Clinic**

**Gynaecology Department** Lincoln County Hospital 01522 573552 Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm www.ulh.nhs.uk

#### Aim of the leaflet

Your doctor has referred you to the post-menopausal bleed clinic. This leaflet is designed to give you some information about the clinic so that you will have an idea of what to expect when you arrive.

# Why do I need a post-menopausal bleed clinic appointment?

Any bleeding after the menopause is considered abnormal and should always be investigated. There are many reasons why bleeding may occur - these include hormone imbalance, medication, polyps (an overgrowth of normal glandular tissue) or occasionally endometrial cancer (cancer of the womb lining). We need to investigate the bleeding to determine a cause and rule out any serious disease.

#### What investigations are required:

- Ultrasound scan of the pelvis.
- Consultation and examination.
- An endometrial (womb lining) biopsy might be taken if required.
- If the womb lining is thickened assessment with a small 3mm flexible camera may be necessary to directly view inside your womb (hysteroscopy).

#### PLEASE ATTEND WITH A FULL BLADDER

This allows the sonographer a clearer image.

#### PLEASE ALLOW 1 TO 3 HOURS FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT

#### **Ultrasound scan**

Ultrasound is used to assess the womb and ovaries. Sometimes it is necessary to do a vaginal scan to obtain a clearer picture of the womb lining.

#### **Consultation and examination**

You will be seen by the nurse specialist/doctor. You will be asked questions regarding your bleeding, any HRT (Hormone Replacement Therapy) or other medication you are taking and any operations or illnesses you have had in the past. You will be informed if you need an endometrial biopsy and a consent form completed.

Your cervix (the neck of the womb) and vagina will be checked. You will be shown to a changing area and asked to remove your underwear and shoes. You will then be laid on a special couch with leg supports. A speculum will be gently inserted into the vagina. This allows the cervix (the neck of the womb) and vagina to be checked for abnormalities.

#### **Endometrial Biopsy** (womb lining biopsy)

This involves passing a very fine tube into the womb to take a sample of the womb lining. Some patients experience "period" type pain. You may have spotting for a couple of days afterwards. The sample is sent to the laboratory to make a precise diagnosis.

#### Results

We will write with your biopsy and ultrasound results once they are available (usually up to 4 weeks). There are occasions where we may need to contact you by telephone, please would you ensure we have your correct number.

### **Outpatient hysteroscopy**

If we are unable to take an endometrial biopsy or the scan shows any abnormality within the womb, a hysteroscopy might be necessary. This allows a doctor or nurse specialist to look inside the womb with a fine camera. We will aim to carry out the hysteroscopy assessment at the time of your first appointment.