

Basics of Colposcopy

Colposcopy: The Procedure

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Objective

To discuss the basic components of colposcopy and review the procedure

What is colposcopy?

Real time magnified and illuminated visualization of the uterine cervix and upper vagina, specifically the transformation zone

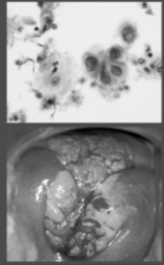
- 1 - Rule out invasive cancer
- 2 - Identify tissue for biopsy "colposcopic-directed biopsy"

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Indications for colposcopy

- Abnormal or inconclusive screening tests
- Symptoms or signs of cervical cancer
- Follow-up of prior pathologic abnormality
- Presence of a lesion



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Things to know

- If the colposcopic examination of the cervix and SCJ is fully visualized or not fully visualized
- Normal and abnormal colposcopic findings
- How to most effectively biopsy the colposcopic findings

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Contraindications and precautions

- No absolute contraindications to colposcopy
- No ECC in pregnancy
- Treat infections prior to colposcopy
- Colposcopy can be performed during menses if flow is light and patient agrees

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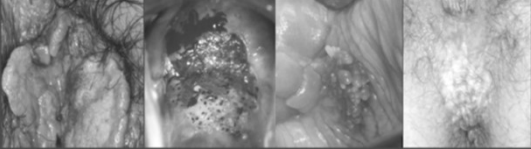
Prepare patient for colposcopy

- No douching or intravaginal medications for 24 hours prior to procedure
- Explain procedure: speculum, vinegar, biopsy
- Informed consent signed
- Patient education information
 - Brochures (ACOG), plain paper (CDC, ASCCP)
- Pregnancy test, if indicated

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Objectives of colposcopy


Visualize vulva, cervix, upper vagina, and perianal area



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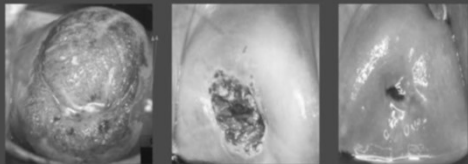
Objectives of colposcopy

Identify the SCJ (fully visualized/not fully visualized)




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Life cycle of the SCJ



Adolescence Reproductive years Postmenopause



Transformation Zone

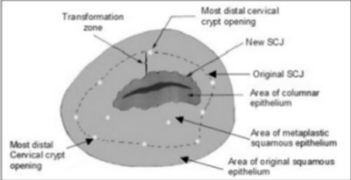
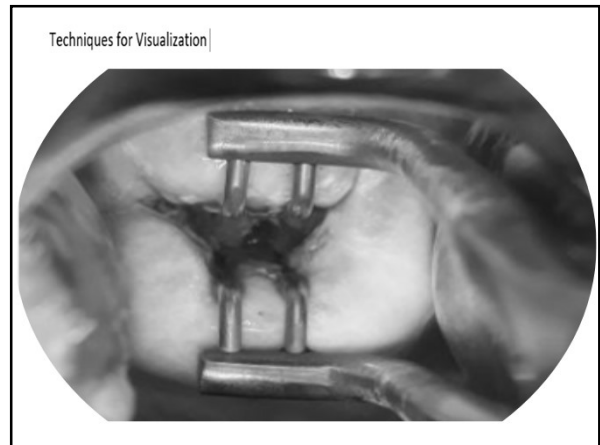
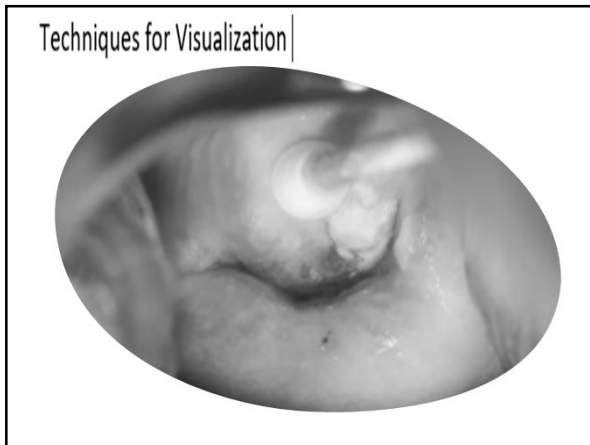
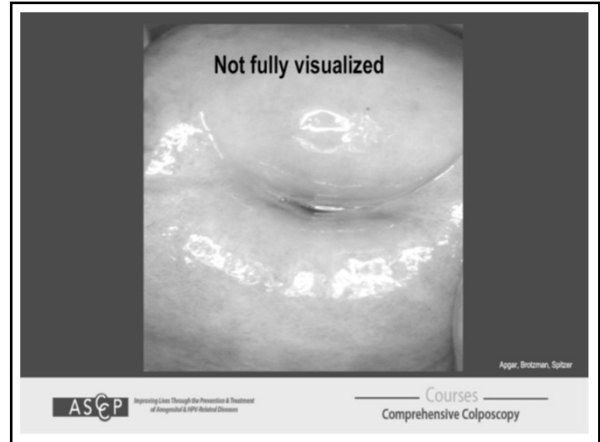
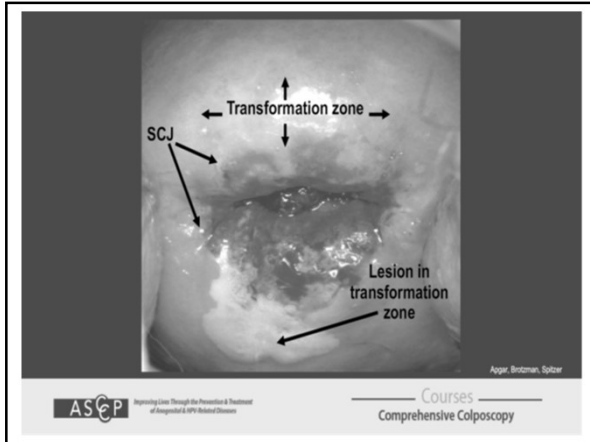


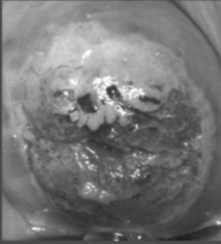
FIGURE 5.1: A method of identifying outer and inner borders of the transformation zone (SCJ: Squamocolumnar junction)



Objectives of colposcopy

Identify presence or absence of acetowhitening and any lesions

- Indicate extent of lesion visualized, size, and location
- Include color, contour, border, vascular changes



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This slide lists the objectives of colposcopy. It includes identifying the presence or absence of acetowhitening and any lesions, and indicating the extent, size, and location of any lesions. It also includes including color, contour, border, and vascular changes. A colposcopy image showing a lesion is included.

"Acetowhiteness"



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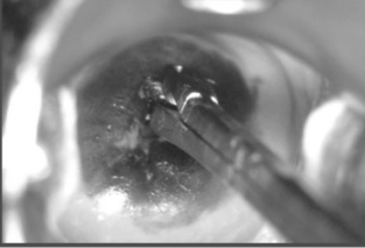
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This slide shows three colposcopy images illustrating acetowhitening. The text "Acetowhiteness" is overlaid on the top right.

Objectives of colposcopy

Identify and biopsy appropriately



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Site of cervical punch biopsy



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Basic colposcopic evaluation: this is the procedure

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Examine the vulva




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Select the correct size of speculum



Beth Aggar, MD

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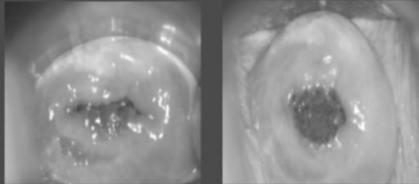
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Technique to try to get a fully visualized SCJ at colposcopy

Opening the speculum a little at the introitus and a lot at the vaginal vault everts the cervix and increases the likelihood of a fully visualized SCJ at the colposcopic examination



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Apply 3-5% acetic acid or vinegar



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Find the SCJ



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Modern Colposcopy

Identify the transformation zone and SCJ

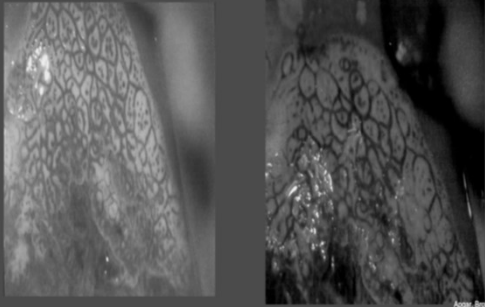


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Modern Colposcopy

Green Filter

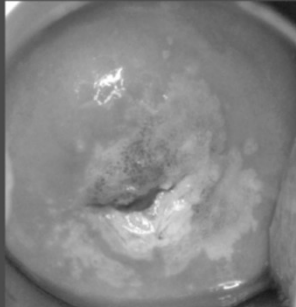


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Do the ECC



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Endocervical curette

- Send for histologic evaluation
- Need to do a good scraping to get enough sample: SHARP curette

Cytobrush (vigorous)

- Send as histological sample- let pathologist know
- ****Better tolerated than curette**

EQUAL sensitivity, SAME inadequate samples
NO ECC in pregnancy!

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Obtaining an ECC

- Insert the Cytobrush into the endocervical canal
- Rotate the Cytobrush 360 degrees approximately 20-25 times
- Once the cell/tissue is obtained, cut off the brush in the LabCorp formalin container
- Write ECC on vial with label and order code 500918

Post-Procedure Instructions

- Pelvic rest X 2 weeks:
- Do not have sex.
- Do not use tampons.
- Do not douche.

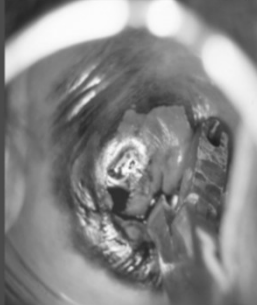
Post-Procedure Instructions

- Call your health care provider right away if you have any of these problems:
 - Heavy vaginal bleeding (using more than one sanitary pad per hour)
 - Severe lower abdominal pain
 - Fever
 - Chills

Post-Procedure Instructions

- Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs may be used for cramping or discomfort.
- Results should be available in 10 days
- The NP must review the results and discuss with collaborating Physician
- Document the plan of care
- Append the note and referral

Biopsy the lesion(s)



Appar. Endoscopy, Spitzer

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