

## **Strong Health Midwifery Group/RAMP Office**

### **COLPOSCOPY FACT SHEET**

You have been advised to have an examination using a colposcope for one (or more) of the following reasons:

- Your last Pap smear has been reported "abnormal". This means you should have tests

### **Is a biopsy painful?**

Most women describe the procedure as feeling like a sharp pinch. Some experience a menstrual-type cramp. There may be slight spotting or bleeding for a few days after a cervical biopsy.

### **What treatment will I need?**

Sometimes the examination shows that no treatment is needed, but further follow up is still important. The treatment varies with the exact diagnosis, where the abnormal cells are, and any other problems you may have. Treatment may involve freezing the cervix, using medicine in the vagina, or using laser to remove the abnormal cells. Rarely is surgery necessary. The treatment plans will be discussed with you after the biopsy report is complete.