

"Take a Look" - Compassionate Colposcopy[®]

Cytology vs. Histology Sampling Brushes

Optimizing Minimally Invasive Brush Biopsy Practice

Cytology Samplers:

We rarely inspect the device prior to placement in liquid fixative.

Cervical cancer prevention involves screening with cervical sampling devices that include spatulas, brooms, or brushes. All may be used for cytology, human papilloma virus tests, or molecular tests. The practice has been commonplace for many years. Cells removed are not grossly evident on the devices and often mixed with mucous, blood and debris.

It is not customary to inspect the brush or brooms for specimen adequacy at the bedside; we rely on the pathology lab analysis to certify the specimen is adequate for diagnosis.



Cytology Samplers

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Endocervical & Ectocervical Histology Brushes Bristle and Fabric-Based Devices

Inspect the brushes to assure an adequate sample is obtained

Inspect the bristles or hook arrays for trapped tissue prior to placement in the fixative vial. For endocervical fabric-based devices the hook array should fill completely when used according to package insert guidance and proper fit or pressure on the endocervical mucosa during rotation. For ectocervical frictional biopsy, with proper pressure and sufficient rotation, the device should fill within two applications (sites) on the cervix. *Inspect the device tip for sufficient trapped tissue prior to placement in the vial.*

Ectocervix Goal: Brush tip should be nearly filled with tissue

SoftBiopsy[®] tissue filled tip





SpiraBrush CX[®] tissue filled tip

Endocervix *Goal: Brush tip should be nearly filled with tissue*



Soft ECC-S[®] tissue filled tip

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