

## **BIOPSY OF A VAGINAL OR LABIAL LESION**

Lumps on the vagina or labia may be benign (not cancerous), malignant (cancerous), or infectious. Although we can often differentiate them by their location, appearance, and rate of growth, we may sometimes recommend excision and further microscopic examination by a trained pathologist. Alternatively, they may be excised for cosmetic reasons or because they are causing discomfort.

Lesions of the vulva and vagina include Bartholin's gland cysts, inclusion (sebaceous) cysts, fibromas, and lipomas. Dermatologic disorders of the vulva most commonly include contact dermatitis, candidiasis, and lichen planus. Occasionally, abscesses will form on the vulva and require drainage for treatment. The most common large cyst of the vulva is the dilated Bartholin's gland.

Vaginal lesions include inclusion cysts and other thin walled cysts.

If you have suspicious or persistent cysts or skin changes, your doctor might recommend a biopsy of the vagina or vulva to confirm the correct diagnosis and treatment plan.