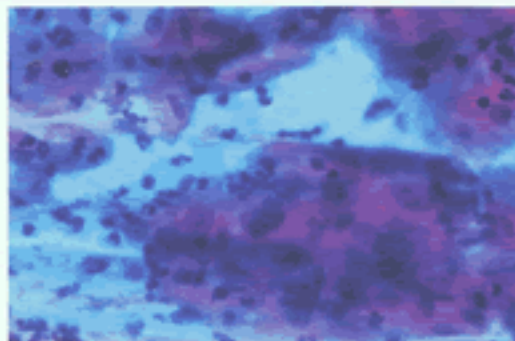




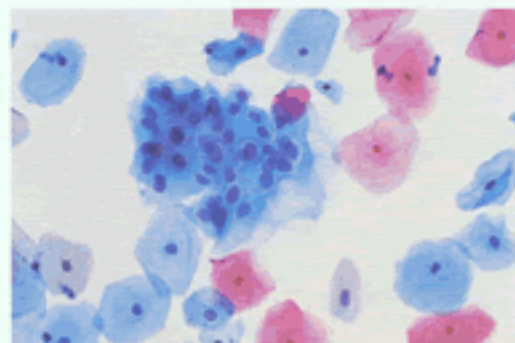
Your Physician's Laboratory Choice

TM

Sonora Quest Laboratories is your physician's choice for analyzing your Pap test. We are committed to offering you the cervical cancer screening technology that provides the best opportunity for identifying abnormalities or disease. Cervical cancer is almost 100% curable, particularly if detected early. As the state's leading provider of cervical cancer screening, Sonora Quest Laboratories works with your physician to make the best analysis of your health and determine the most appropriate follow-up. ■



Conventional Pap smear sample



ThinPrep® sample

The clarity of a ThinPrep® slide versus a conventional Pap smear slide is evident even to an untrained eye. Plus, since every slide is evaluated by a rigorously trained professional at Sonora Quest Laboratories, a recognized leader in laboratory quality, you're assured of better results.

Common questions about your Pap test and ThinPrep

1. First of all, what is a Pap test?

The pap test, or Pap smear, is a screening test that has been very successful at finding signs of cervical cancer, or cells that may turn into cancer cells in the future. To do the test, your doctor gently scrapes cells from your uterine cervix, then sends the cells to a laboratory for review. The test allows laboratory professionals to spot early signs of cancer so that, if any are found, you can be treated before the disease actually develops. ■

2. If I feel fine, do I still need a Pap test?

Yes. Even though you may feel fine, you should still have Pap tests on a regular basis. That way, any problems can be caught and treated early on - before they become serious. ■

3. Is there room for improvement with the Pap smear?

The Pap smear is a good test for detecting most cases of cervical cancer. In fact, in the last 50 years, it has helped reduce the number of cervical cancer deaths from 35,000 a year to less than 5,000. But, like any procedure that has been around for so long, there are certain aspects of the test that today's technology can improve upon. ■

4. Why should I prefer the ThinPrep® Pap Test™?

Because it is the first real improvement to the Pap smear in 50 years. While the doctor will still collect the cervical cells from you in the same way, it's the way the cells are delivered to the laboratory that makes the ThinPrep Pap Test so different. As a result, the lab can process a higher quality slide to read. ■

5. How is the ThinPrep Pap Test different?

Once your cells have been taken, the doctor rinses them into a vial of liquid instead of smearing them onto a slide. Because the cells aren't "smeared," they don't clump together. This method also allows the doctor to preserve almost all of the sample, rather than just a portion.

The vial is then sent to the laboratory, where a machine separates the cells from unnecessary materials, such as blood and mucus. The remaining, important cells are then placed onto a slide in a clear and uncrowded way. This approach makes the ThinPrep slide easier for the lab to read, and to detect potential disease earlier. ■

6. Is there proof that the ThinPrep Pap Test is more effective?

Studies involving thousands of women have proven the ThinPrep Pap Test increased detection of precancerous cells. ■

7. What if my test results say I may have a problem?

There is always that fear, but it shouldn't stop you from getting the test. Most Pap test results are normal. However, should there be a problem, your doctor can follow up immediately with whatever treatment is best for you. It's important to remember that, if detected early, cervical cancer is almost 100% curable. That's why it's important to get routine exams. ■

8. Will my insurance pay for the ThinPrep Pap Test?

Many insurances do cover the ThinPrep Test, but healthcare plans vary across the country. Sonora Quest Laboratories has worked with many of the insurance carriers in Arizona to arrange coverage of ThinPrep Pap Test.

The best thing to do is check with your insurer to make sure. ■

You may find even more in-depth information on the internet at www.thinprep.com