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Cervical Screening and Pap Smear Model

Practical 06 / Skills laboratory simulation

Aim

Explain cervical cancer prevention and demonstrate a Pap smear workflow on a pelvic model.

Principle

HPV vaccination and appropriate screening reduce cervical cancer burden. HPV testing, cytology and visual methods have different roles in screening and triage pathways.

Materials and Requirements

- Pelvic model, speculum and approved collection device with mock specimen container
- Fictional HPV, cytology, VIA and VILI results

Procedure

1. Explain the purpose, procedure, alternatives, privacy and follow-up. Obtain simulated consent and offer a chaperone.
2. Establish whether the case is routine screening or symptom assessment, review test purpose and consent and identify privacy, chaperone and result communication arrangements.
3. Verify identity, specimen type and test request. Set up the model and simulate visualising the cervix with the speculum.
4. Check mock identifiers, sample medium, expiry and request. With adequate lighting prepare the pelvic model and demonstrate speculum approach and cervix visualisation under the instructor’s direction.
5. Use the kit’s approved collection method on the model. Transfer the specimen to the medium or slide as directed and label it with identifiers and site.

Continue with step 6 on the next page.

Procedure Continued

Cervical Screening and Pap Smear Model

6. Identify the target area on the model and use the kit's approved collection and transfer method. Complete the mock label, indicating date, test, site and collection limitation where relevant.
7. Compare HPV testing, Pap cytology, visual inspection with acetic acid or Lugol iodine and the role of colposcopy for appropriate referrals.
8. Compare cytology, HPV tests and visual methods using the case pathway and describe the result that requires referral or colposcopy. Distinguish triage and clinical evaluation needs.
9. Document any collection limitation, result route and follow-up responsibility.
10. Link the lab form and model specimen, document adequacy concerns and confirm who reviews the result. Tell the actor when and how they would receive it.

Precautions

- Use a pelvic model for technique practice.
- A patient with concerning symptoms needs clinical evaluation even if previous screening was reassuring.

Observations and Interpretation

Cervical Screening and Pap Smear Model

Observations and Record

Item	What to record	What it tells you
Prevention	Vaccine status and screening indication	Supports a tailored discussion
Specimen	Technique, site, medium and label	Determines result quality and traceability
Result plan	Test type, follow-up and clinician responsible	Reduces missed follow-up

Worked Example

A model case has a positive high-risk HPV screen and no symptoms. The student uses the current screening pathway to identify the required triage and explains when results will be discussed.

Result and Interpretation

A positive screening result requires appropriate follow-up. Explain the test meaning and the next step without treating a screening result as a cancer diagnosis.

Viva Questions and Answers

Why label the specimen at collection?

It links the correct patient and site to the test.

What is colposcopy used for?

Magnified assessment of the cervix with targeted evaluation, including biopsy when indicated.

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