

**THE CYTOLOGIC DETECTION OF UTERINE
CANCER AND ITS PRECURSORS
BY THE ENDOPAP DEVICE**

**A COMPARISON OF THE ENDOPAP WITH
CURETTAGE OR HYSTERECTOMY**

THESIS

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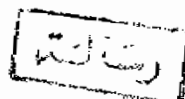
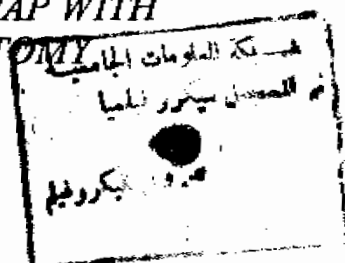
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To my Dear Wife
and
My Lovely Son "Omar".

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ABBREVIATIONS

D & C	: Dilatation and curettage
DNA	: De oxy ribonucleic acid
E ₂ R	: Estradiol-receptor
E ₂ DH	: Estradiol 17-B-dehydrogenase
ERT	: Estrogen-Replacement Therapy
FIGO	: International Federation of Gynecologists and Obstetricians.
FSH	: Follicle stimulating hormone
IUD	: Intrauterine device
Pap	: Papanicolaou
RNA	: Ribonucleic acid
TVS	: Transvaginal sonography
WHO	: World Health Organization

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

The cervical papanicolaou smear has proven highly successful in detection of cervical neoplasias at an asymptomatic stage. However, it has been unsuccessful in the detection of endometrial carcinoma, as has endocervical aspiration, (*Kianoosh, 1978*).

The search for simple outpatient methods for direct sampling of the endometrium has led to several instruments being introduced, but none has been widely accepted. Curettage is still the standard procedure for endometrial morphological examination. Critical analysis of this very frequently performed operation has pointed to the relatively low rate of obtaining adequate material in postmenopausal women, the high cost, and last but not least, the inconvenience to the patient, (*Ole and Elsa, 1985*).

Endometrial cytologic sampling has lagged behind cervical cytologic sampling in its application and, most important, its impact on clinical practice. It is well known that the decline in the incidence of invasive cervical carcinoma has been primarily attributed to the widespread application of a cervical cytology screening program.

A similar phenomenon has not occurred for endometrial carcinoma. Reasons for this are primarily because of the lack of an effective, inexpensive, and easy-to-use sampling method, (*La Polla, 1990*).

Cytology sampling is a simple office procedure with minimal discomfort to the patient. No anesthesia is necessary, and the cost is low in both money and time consumed.

The Endopap endometrial cytologic sampler was developed as a simple device aiming at improving the detection of endometrial cancer and its precursors through routine screening.

AIM OF THE WORK

AIM OF THE WORK

Occult endometrial carcinoma is a detectable disease using commercially available sampling devices and cytohistologic techniques.

The purpose of the present study is the assessment of detection of uterine cancer and its precursors using the Endopap endometrial cytologic sampler.

Also, the study will correlate endometrial cytologic specimens with histologic specimens obtained at curettage or hysterectomy.

The study will report the evaluation of the Endopap device as a sampling device and will compare cytologic accuracy versus histopathology in women with symptoms undergoing uterine curettage or hysterectomy.

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*REVIEW OF
LITERATURE*