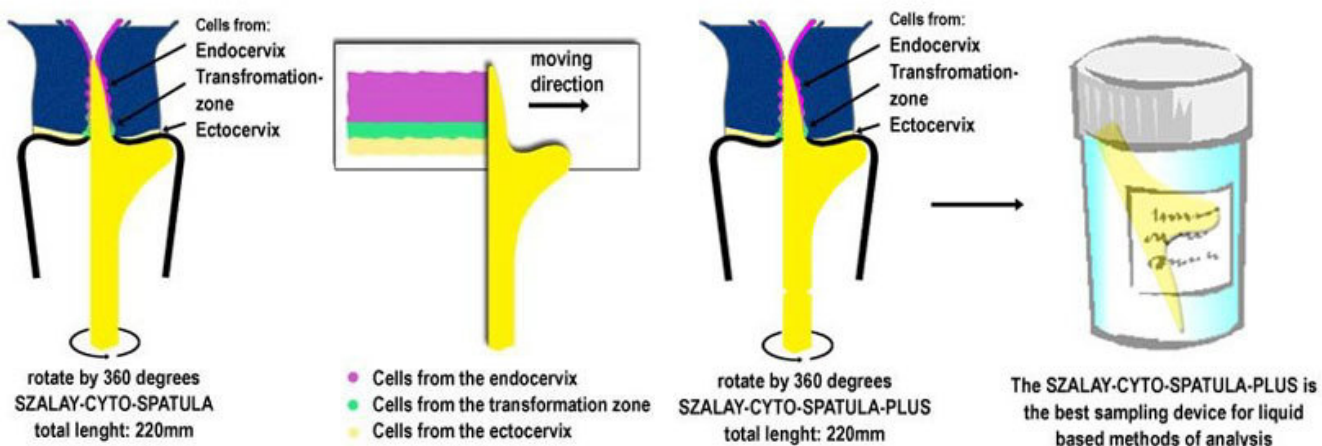


## Cervical sampling with the SZALAY CYTO-SPATULA



1. Label the slide on the ground-glass side using a pencil (sequence number or name of patient)
2. After insertion of the speculum the surface of the ectocervix is cleansed with a cotton swab and **any mucus and debris removed**.
3. The Spatula with the optimal shape and size is chosen from the **series**.
4. The 'tongue' of the spatula is introduced into the canal, whilst its 'shoulder' is positioned on the 3 o'clock position of the ectocervix at the beginning of the procedure.
5. With **gentle pressure** the spatula is **rotated in a clockwise** direction (see **VideoClip**). If the cervical canal is wide **the spatula is allowed to wander according to the contour of the cervix** during rotation. If after rotation through 360° without bleeding (**see important information**) it is felt that sampling is inadequate, the procedure may be repeated one or two times.
6. The cells are spread on the slide always along its long axis, parallel to its edges. If the distribution of the cellular material is uneven, the same spatula may be used for respreading.
7. The slide is **immediately** fixed. If using sprays a distance of **about 30 cm** should be kept to prevent the cell sample from being blown away.
8. Once the slide has been fixed, place the slide inside the envelope for dispatch.
9. The Szalay Cyto-Spatula's are discarded after use. They may be burned as they leave no residue.

If the smear is to be further processed with **liquid based (Cell Suspension Based Cytologic)** methods of analysis, the head of the SZALAY CYTO-SPATULA is removed after cervical sampling (item 5 above) by breaking it off at the visible score line, and sealed in a designated container with the special solution for further processing.

### Important information on the use of the Szalay-Cyto-Spatula

In approximately 2-3% of cases, slight bleeding may occur when taking the cervical sample. This does not affect the colposcopic examination. Slight spotting may occur in that case for one to two days. **This should cause no problem if the patient is informed of this possibility.** Only **very rarely** does the blood affect the cytologic assessment. **The colposcopic examination may also be conducted prior to taking the cervical sample!**