**CERVICAL PESSARY INFORMATION SHEET**

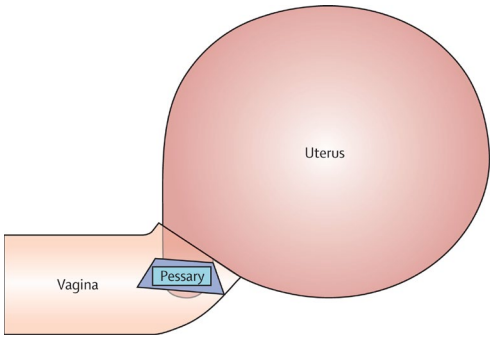

A cervical pessary has been suggested as a means to help reduce the risk of preterm delivery among women found to have cervical shortening during the pregnancy.

The specific groups of women that may have the most benefit from its placement include:

- women in their first pregnancy
- women without a prior spontaneous preterm delivery (delivery prior to 37 weeks)
- multiple gestations (twins, triplets, etc)

What to expect with placement:

- the pessary can be folded and placed with no more discomfort than a PAP smear exam
- the pessary stays in place until the onset of labor, rupture of membranes, unexplained vaginal bleeding, or 36 weeks
- some patients report an increase in the amount of vaginal discharge




There is conflicting data in the scientific literature as to whether or not using a cervical pessary can reduce the chance of preterm delivery for women with cervical shortening.

Other options for cervical shortening in your situation has been discussed, including vaginal progesterone and /or cervical cerclage placement.

The device is NOT approved by the FDA, but is widely available for use in Europe, where it was developed and the original studies were published.

By signing this consent, I acknowledge that:

- I have asked questions about the cervical pessary and these questions were answered to my satisfaction
- placement of the cervical pessary does not guarantee a normal pregnancy outcome or a healthy baby/ babies
- I understand that this device is still considered to be experimental by the FDA
- The cost of the device is not covered by my insurance, therefore I am responsible for $60 to cover the cost of the device

Patient Signature:_____ Date: _____