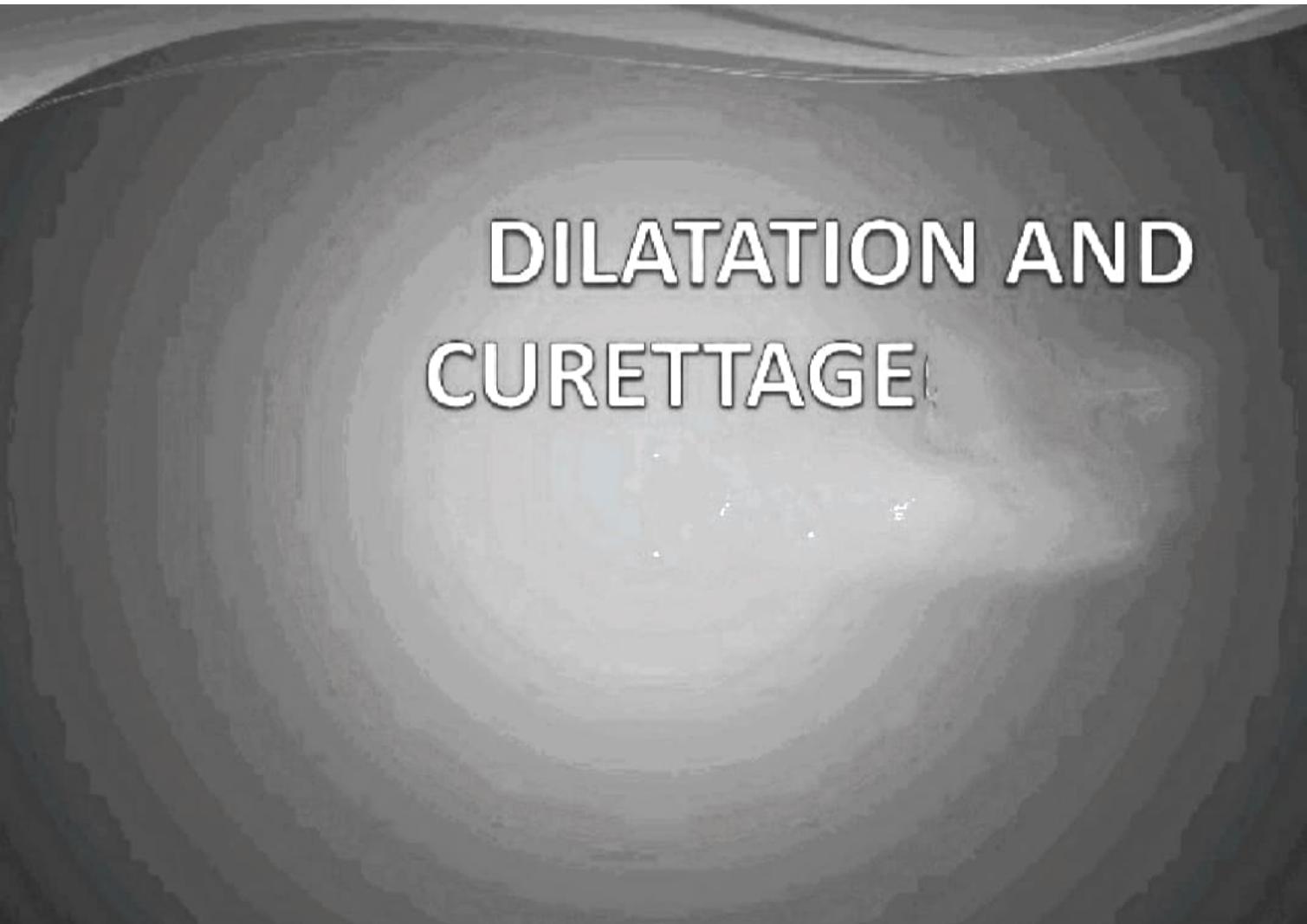

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Subject:Midwifery & gynecological nursing

Topic :Dilatation & curettage

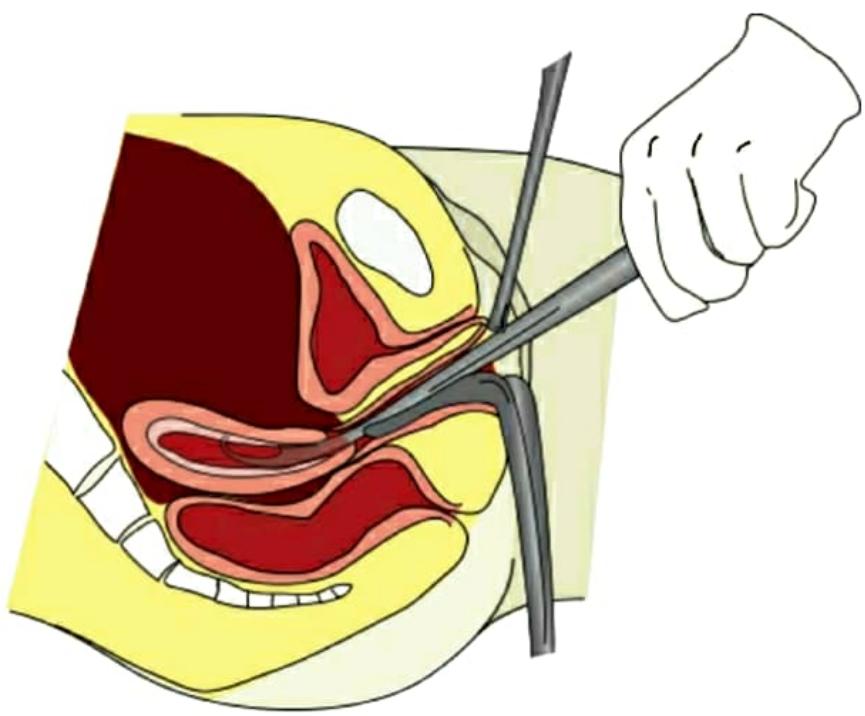


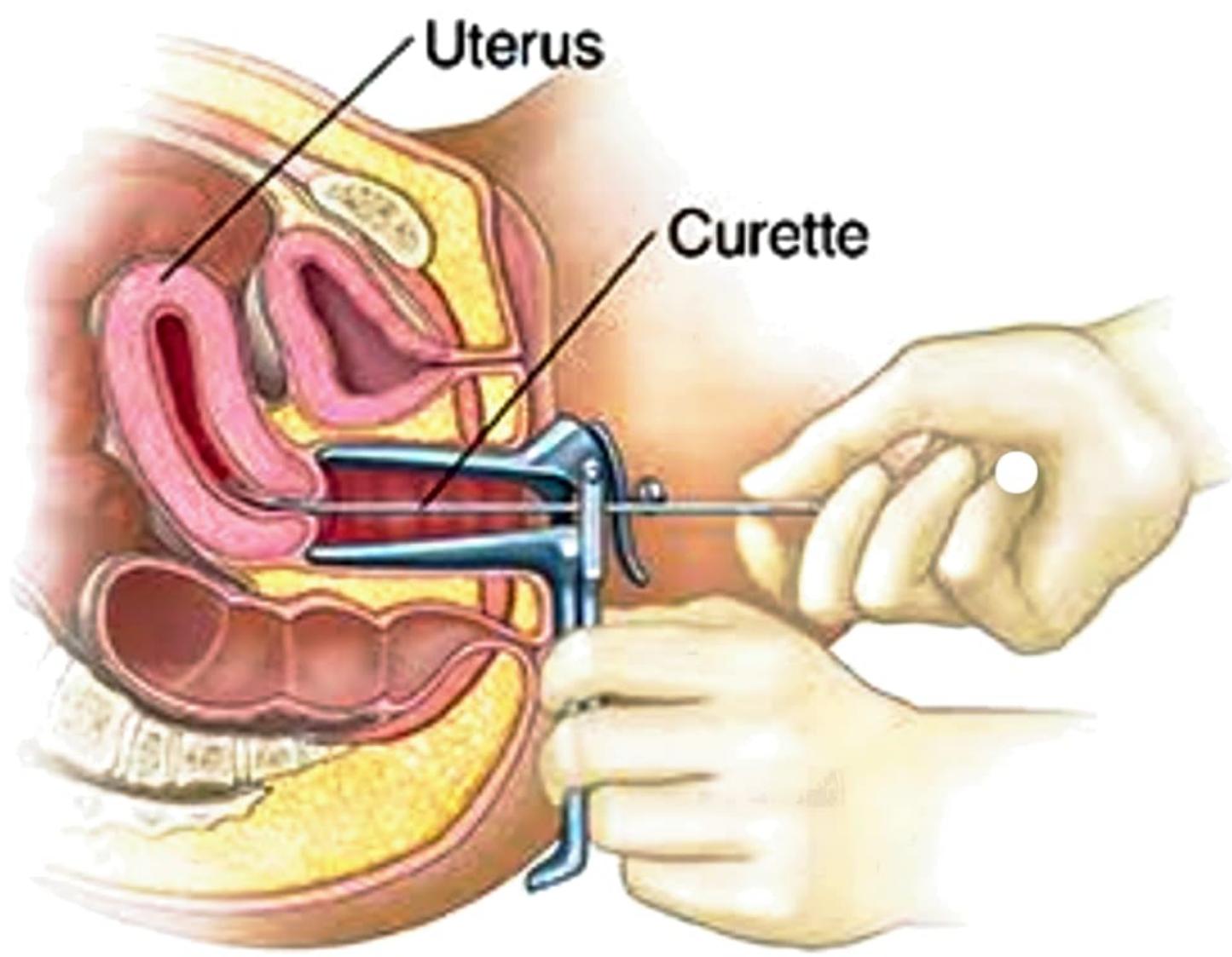
DILATATION AND CURETTAGE



WHAT IS D&C

- **Dilation(or dilatation) and curettage refers to the dilation(widening/opening) of the cervix and surgical removal of part of the lining of the uterus or contents of the uterus by scraping and scooping(curettage)**
- **Mostly used in first trimester miscarriage or abortion.**





Clinical uses

D and C are performed in pregnant and non pregnant patients, for different clinical indications

1. During pregnancy or postpartum

* A D and C may be performed early in pregnancy to remove pregnancy tissue, either in the case of a non viable pregnancy, such as a missed Or incomplete miscarriage, Or an undesired pregnancy, as in a surgical abortion

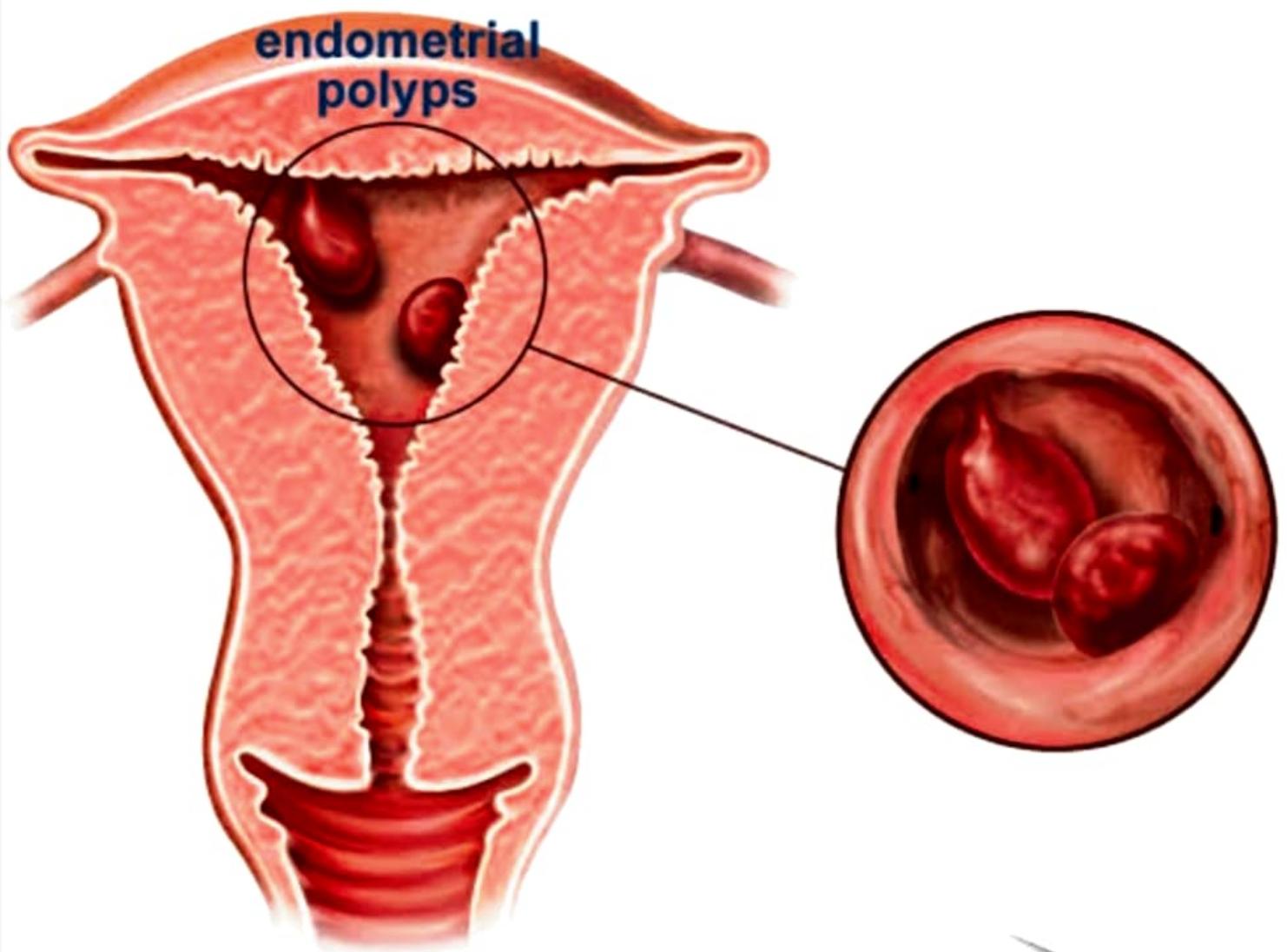
* For patients who have recently given birth, a D and C may be indicated to remove retained placental tissue that does not pass spontaneously.

2. Non pregnant patients

D and C for non pregnant patients are commonly performed for the diagnosis of gynaecological conditions leading to abnormal uterine bleeding , to remove the excess uterine lining in women who have..

conditions such as poly cystic ovarian syndrome, to remove tissue in the uterus that may be causing abnormal uterine bleeding, such as Endometrial polyps or Uterine fibroids or to diagnose the cause of post menopausal bleeding

Endometrial polyps



PROCEDURE FOR D & C

It is usually takes place in doctors office, an outpatient clinic, or the hospital, it usually takes 10 – 15 minutes, but the patient have to stay for up to 5 hours

D&C TRAY

- **Sponge holding-2**
- **Sims vaginal speculum.**
- **Sims vaginal wall retractor.**
- **Cusco's vaginal speculum.**
- **Vulsellum forceps 2**
- **Cervical dilator(Hegar's dilator).**
- **Sims uterine curette**
- **Ayre's spatula.**
- **Uterine sounds.**

SIMS VAGINAL SPECULUM

- Used for exposing and inspecting the vaginal wall and cervix.
- For collecting discharge from vagina and cervix for microscopy
- Used in D&C ,IUCD insertions etc.
- To detect vesicovaginal fistula, vaginal wall prolapse like cystocele, enterocele etc
- To detect cervical carcinomas and its different diagnosis.



Cervical dilator(HEGAR'S DILATOR)

- They are double ended or single ended metal dilators with a suitable curve for the uterocervical canal in pregnant uterus.
- Used mainly in obstetrical indications
- Used to dilate the internal os of the cervix in cases of abortion or in medical termination of pregnancy for suction and evacuation.
- Used to dilate the cervix during the LSCS for the draining of lochia.

HEGAR Uterine Dilator



Vulsellum forceps

- Vulsellum forcep has multiple sharp teeth at the end which, when locked , give a firm grip on the cervix
- 20 cm in length, curved or straight
- Used to grasp or hold the anterior lip of the cervix in operations.
- To steady the cervix to get firm grip on cervix so as to pass any instrument inside the uterus during procedure like D&C.
- To determine the degree of uterine prolapse.



Sims uterine curette

- The ends of the curette may be blunt and sharp or both ends sharp or both blunt
- Loops are of various sizes-small ,medium, large.

USES OF SHARP CURETTE

- Used for gynecological conditions for both diagnostic and therapeutic purposes
- In DUB(dysfunctional uterine bleeding) for histopathology of endometrium.
- Used in suspected cases of tuberculous endometritis.
- In patients with postmenopausal bleeding.
- Used before certain operations like fothergill's operation.

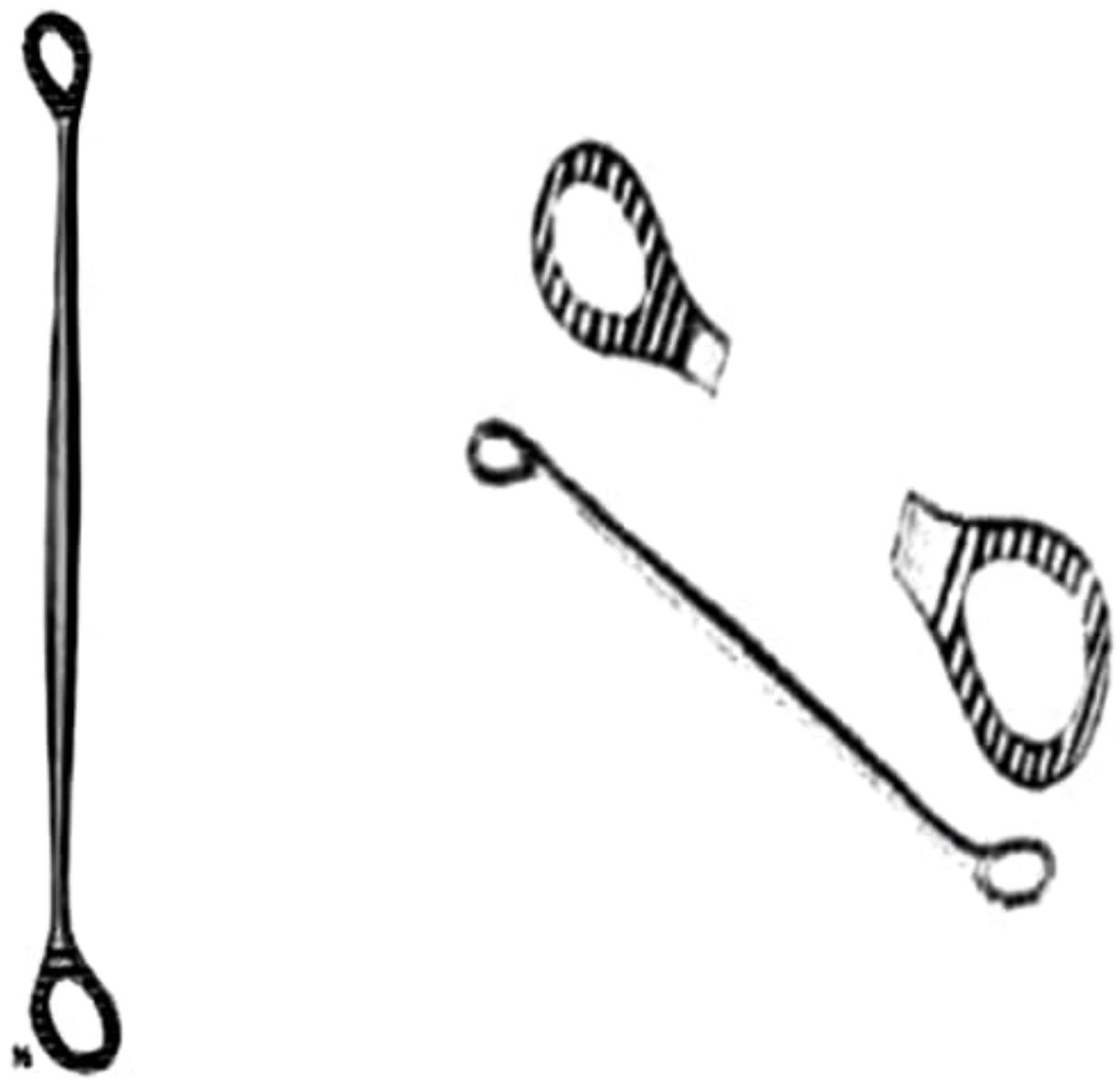
USES OF BLUNT CURETTE

- **Mainly used in obstetrical conditions**
- **Used to curette retained bits of products in incomplete abortion.**
- **Used to curette the retained bits of placenta**



Sims vaginal wall retractor

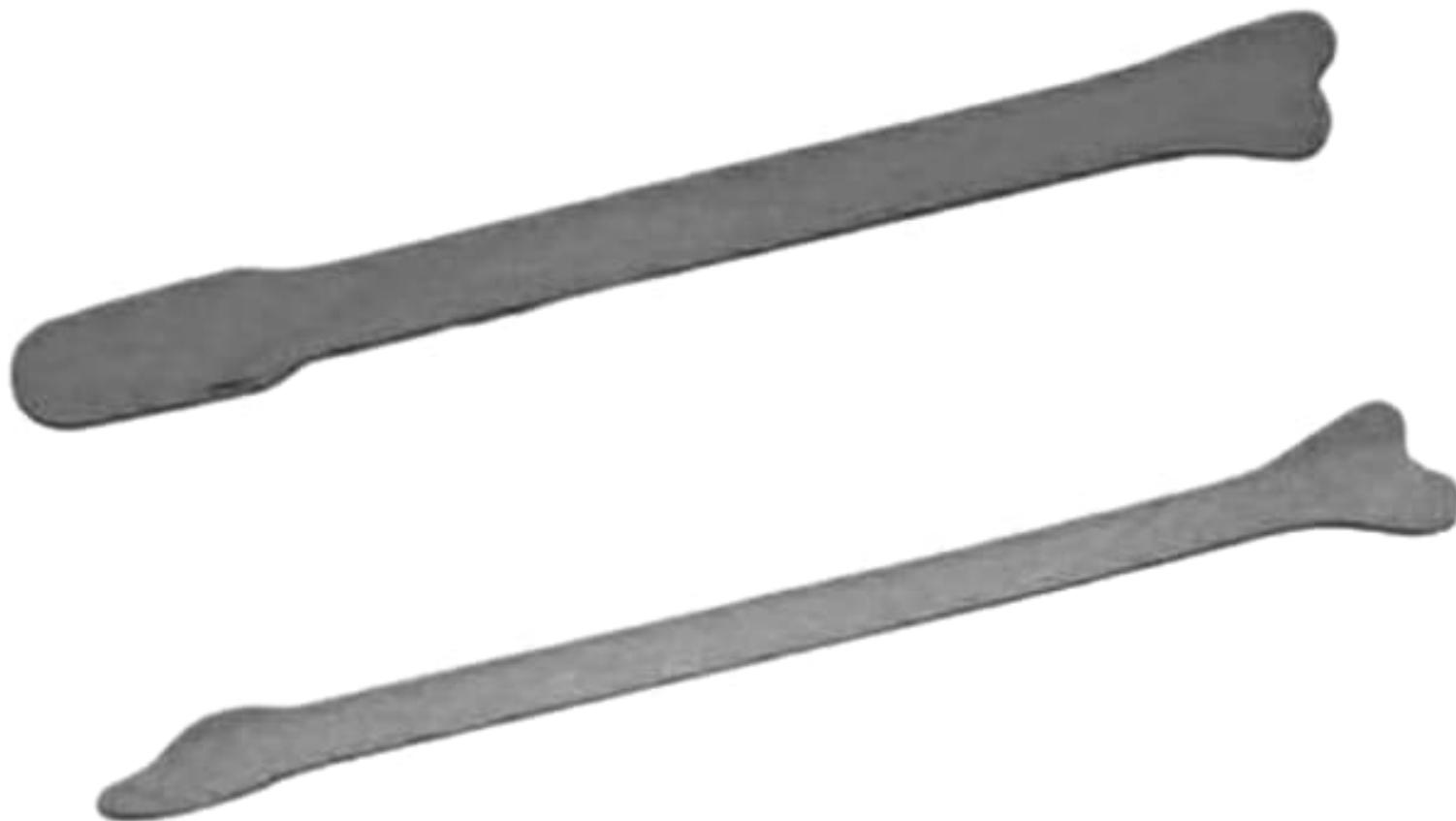
- Used to retract the lax vaginal wall to expose the cervix.
- To visualize cervix , cystocele and growth on vagina.
- To visualize site of fistula like vesico vaginal fistula etc.
- Can be rarely used as a curette to remove the retained bits of placenta.



Ayer's spatula

- Made up of wood or plastic
- One end is rounded and the other end is used for scraping squamocolumnar junction.
- Used to take smear directly from the cervix or pap smear.
- Used for screening of carcinoma cervix.

Wooden spatula



Cusco's vaginal speculum

- Self retaining retractor
- It causes least discomfort during the introduction.
- It gives good exposure as it can be adjusted to the size of the vagina.
- Used for inspection of vagina and cervix.
- Useful in pap smear, cervical biopsy, high vaginal swab etc.



STEPS OF PROCEDURE

*Depending on the anticipated duration and difficulty expected with the procedure, as well as the clinical indication and the patient preferences, a D and C may be performed with local anesthesia, moderate sedation , deep sedation or general anesthesia.

*After adequate anesthesia has been administered , the patients legs are parted and flexed and comfortably put up on a stirrup in a position that is called Lithotomy position. This endures a good view of the genital area for the surgeon or gynecologist to operate



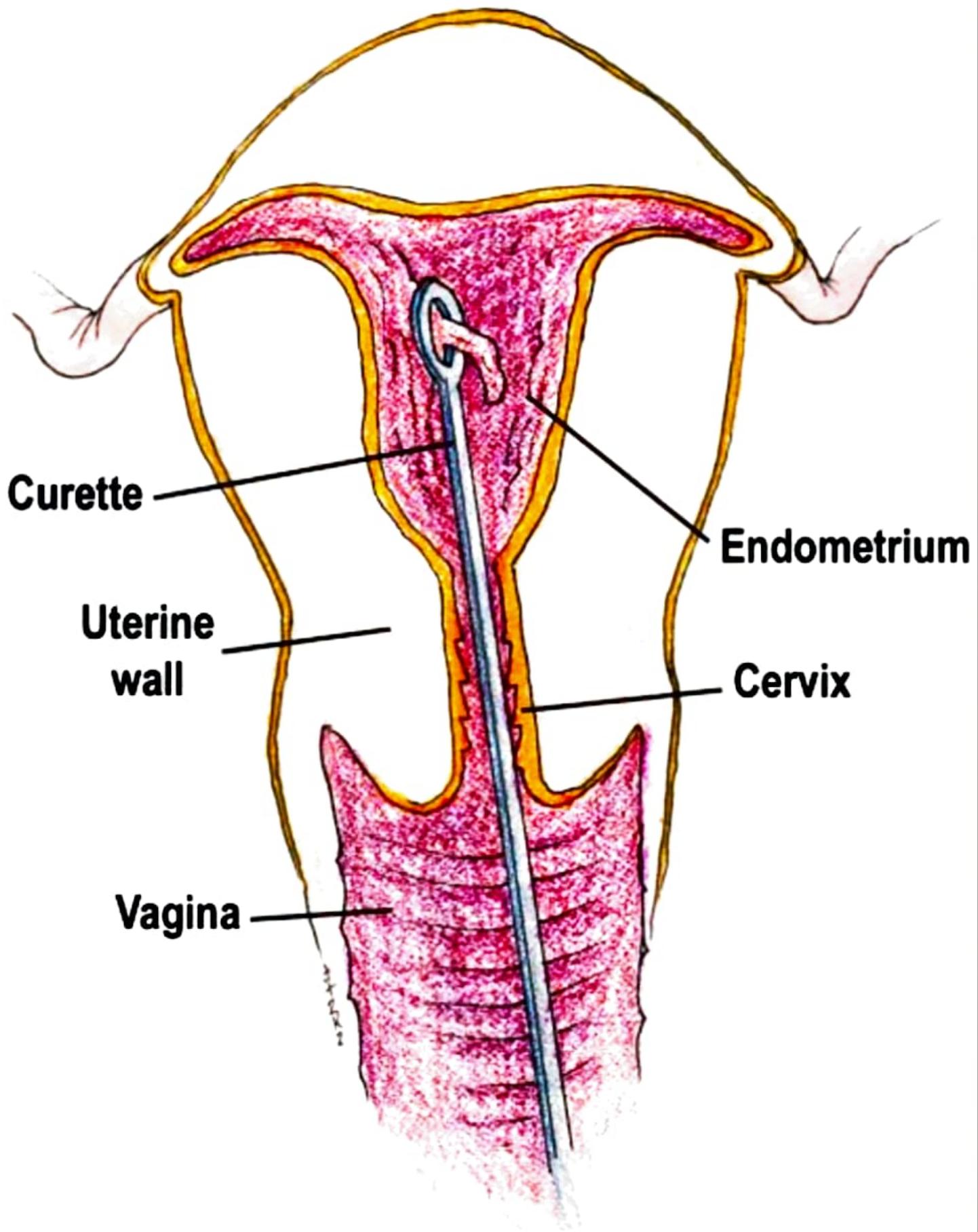
- *The vagina and cervix are scrubbed with an antibacterial solution that may be iodine or alcohol based.
- *The cervix is visualized using an instrument that is called speculum.

*Lights are so adjusted to visualize the cervix so that it's upper lip can be grasped with a special curved forceps called the 'Vulsellum'. This helps both in stabilizing and bringing the cervix down towards the vaginal opening to ease the rest of the procedure. :

*Dilatation is next done using sequential metal round tapered dilators and the opening to the uterus is gradually widened to about the size of a large pencil

*once the dilation has been completed the spoon like curette is inserted into the uterine cavity and is used to gently scrape the lining of the uterus

*When the surgeon feels the gritty layer of cells just above the muscle of the uterus, the he/she knows that scrapping has gone deep enough to sample the tissue adequately



*This scrapping is done throughout the uterus and the tissue that is removed then sent to a pathologist for microscopic examination .

CONTRAINDICATION OF D & C

- If a patient is too ill to undergo surgery
- If the patient is unable to move her legs apart, such as with severe arthritis in the hips
- If the patient has problem with clotting mechanism of the body

COMPLICATIONS OF D & C

- Infection
- Bleeding
- Damage to nearby organs
- Uterine perforation
- Reaction to anesthetic medications
- Breathing difficulties

NURSES RESPONSIBILITY

1. The patient is instructed to refrain from eating and drinking for at least 8 hours before the procedure , if general anesthesia will be used .
2. Prepare the patient when the doctor order blood and / or urine tests to scan for certain abnormalities .

- 3 . Encourage the patient to visit doctor the day before so they can apply gel to start the process of opening the cervix.
- 4 .Encourage the patient to take one or two days off from work or school.

5. Sedatives may be given before the procedure begins as doctors orders because opening the cervix can be painful .
6. The patients are educated that they can resume their normal activities , but should avoid sexual intercourse, Douching and tampon use for atleast two weeks to prevent infection.

7. As the procedure is infectious , the woman is educated to report immediately to her doctor , if a woman experiences any of the following symptoms ;

- Fever
- Heavy bleeding
- Severe cramps
- Foul smelling vaginal discharge



Thank
You