

# Goal in stage Ia1 cervical cancer is complete excision

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(HealthDay)—Clear excision margins are important in the management of stage Ia1 squamous cervical cancer, according to research published in the December issue of the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

Katerina Papakonstantinou, Ph.D., of the West London Gynaecological Cancer Centre, and colleagues conducted a retrospective observational study of 111 women with stage Ia1 [cervical cancer](#). The patients had either immediate reflex hysterectomy (group A, 19 patients), excisional cone with [cervical intraepithelial neoplasia](#) (CIN) found at the margins (group B, 29 patients), or excisional cone with clear margins (group C, 63 patients). The effect of the excision margin after cone on long-term outcomes of stage Ia1 cervical cancer was assessed.

The researchers found that women with clear margins following initial excision were more likely to remain disease-free than those with involved margins (P

"Conservative [management](#) is contraindicated in women with microinvasion at the margin," the authors write. "When CIN involves the margin, there is a greater risk of residual disease and of further treatment."

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