



Hysterosalpingogram

Performed on Cycle Day 5-12

A hysterosalpingogram (HSG) is a procedure to assess the fallopian tubes and uterus for possible abnormalities. For example, tubal occlusion (from conditions such as endometriosis or fibroids) may be detected with the HSG. Defects in the uterine lining (from adhesions, fibroids or polyps) which may prevent implantation and could cause miscarriage can also be identified with this study. The test is performed in the first half of the menstrual cycle (after your period has ended, but prior to ovulation) to ensure that you are not pregnant at the time of the procedure.

The procedure must be conducted in a radiology suite since it involves fluoroscopy. The test itself takes less than twenty minutes. First, you will sign an informed consent form confirming that you are aware of the risks, benefits and alternatives to this test. Then, you will be brought into an exam room for the procedure. After undressing from the waist down, you will lie on the exam table and a speculum will be placed inside the vagina. To prevent infection, antiseptic will be placed on the cervix and vagina. Then, a small catheter is placed through the cervix and into the lowest part of the uterus. Then, a small amount of contrast will be introduced into the catheter and the uterus. Simultaneously, images are collected under fluoroscopy to assess for uterine and/ or tubal filling defects. You may feel some cramping when the catheter is placed or when the contrast is being introduced, but it usually stops within a few minutes of completing the test. Taking Tylenol or Advil one hour prior to the HSG will help to minimize cramping.

Prior to this appointment you should consider taking Tylenol or Motrin to minimize any potential cramping. You can eat and drink normally prior to and after the procedure. Most women return to their normal activities after the test. However, you may experience vaginal spotting or discharge so we recommend that you abstain from sex on the day of this test. If you have chills or feel excessively warm within a few days of completing this test, you should check your temperature. If you have a fever (temperature >100.5F), you need to call us immediately. You may have developed a pelvic infection from the HSG procedure (this occurs very infrequently and can be easily treated with antibiotics).