

Hysterosalpingogram

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A Hysterosalpingogram is an x-ray examination of a woman's uterus and fallopian tubes that uses a special form of x-ray called fluoroscopy and a contrast material (dye), which is injected. During the procedure, the fluoroscopy makes it possible to see internal organs in motion. The uterus and fallopian tubes are filled with the water soluble contrast material and the radiologist is able to view and assess their anatomy and function.

Reason for the Procedure

The procedure is performed to check for a blocked fallopian tube. The test often is done for a woman who is having a hard time becoming pregnant. An infection may cause severe scarring of the fallopian tubes and block the tubes, preventing pregnancy. Occasionally the dye used during a hysterosalpingogram will push through and open a blocked tube. The procedure can find problems in the uterus, such as an abnormal shape or structure, an injury, polyps, fibroids, adhesions, or a foreign object in the uterus. These types of problems may cause painful menstrual periods or repeated miscarriages. This procedure may also be performed to see whether surgery to reverse a tubal ligation has been successful.

Preparing for the Procedure

The procedure is best performed one week after menstruation but before ovulation to make certain that you are not pregnant during the procedure. The procedure should not be performed if you have an active inflammatory condition.

During the Procedure

This procedure is similar to a gynecological exam. The patient is positioned on her back on the exam table, with her knees bent and feet up and a speculum is inserted into the vagina. A catheter is inserted into the cervix and the speculum is removed and the patient is positioned under the fluoroscopy camera. The contrast material is injected and begins to fill the uterine cavity, fallopian tubes, and peritoneal cavity through the catheter. Images are then taken of the patient's reproductive system.

After the Procedure

When the procedure is complete, the catheter is removed and the patient will be allowed to sit up. The entire procedure usually is completed in 20 to 30 minutes. The procedure should cause only minor discomfort and slight cramping when the catheter is placed and the contrast material is injected. Most women will experience some vaginal spotting for a few days after the procedure, which is normal. Your ordering provider will receive the results and discuss them with you.

You have an appointment for a Hysterosalpingogram:

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

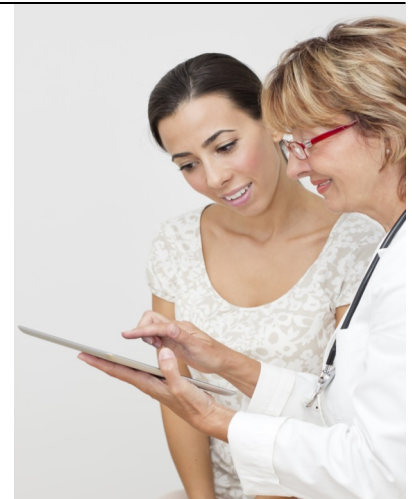
____ Clarion Facility

Please use emergency room entrance and register at admissions desk.

____ Belmond Facility

Please use main entrance and register at admissions desk.

For questions or more information, call 641-444-3500 for Belmond,
or 515-532-9353 for Clarion.



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