

Hysterosalpingogram

A Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) is an X-ray study used to diagnose blockage of the fallopian tubes and abnormalities of the uterus and cervix. A radiopaque dye is injected through the cervix into the uterus and fallopian tubes. Pictures are displayed on a monitor as the dye travels through the reproductive system. In the case of normal (unblocked) fallopian tubes, the dye fills the uterus and spills out the ends of the tubes. If the flow of dye stops, an obstruction is present. The total procedure takes approximately ½ hour. If the HSG demonstrates an abnormality, the physician may choose to extend the length of the test to conduct a more detailed evaluation of the uterus and/or tubes. A tubal catheterization or selective salpingography may be used to open fallopian tubes that are blocked.

Patient Instructions:

1. Contact your office on Day 1 (the first day of full flow) or 2 of your menstrual cycle. If this occurs on a weekend or holiday, please call the next business day. HSGs are performed within the first 10 days of the cycle, after bleeding has ended but before ovulation occurs. Hysterosalpingograms are done at selected offices only. You will be told where to go when you schedule the procedure. You will be asked to sign an informed consent form acknowledging your understanding of the procedure and giving the physician permission to perform the test.
2. At the time of scheduling, advise a member of the medical staff if you have (1) any drug allergies or allergies to either iodine or shellfish, or (2) a mitral valve prolapse, heart murmur, or any other condition that requires antibiotic treatment before a medical procedure.
3. Re-schedule your HSG appointment if you have not stopped bleeding on the day it is scheduled. The test cannot be performed while you are actively bleeding.
4. It is recommended that someone accompany you to the office for the test and take you home afterwards.
5. Some cramping and spotting may occur after the HSG. If you develop a fever, or if bleeding is as heavy as the heaviest flow during your menstrual period, **call your office immediately**. After hours or on weekends or holidays, call the answering service and have the on-call physician paged.

Note: All surgical procedures must be approved and authorized by your insurance carrier.