

Hysterosalpingogram (HSG)

Patient Information Sheet No. Int 13

Your appointment:

Date:

Time:

Location:
.....

Please see our website or the back of this form for more branch details

Duration of Examination:

The examination takes up to 30 minutes.

Please bring with you:

- Your request form
- All previous relevant imaging
- Medicare card

Due to the catheter cost and the specialised nature of this examination, there is a gap payable for all patients. Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information on this procedure please call one of our branches.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:
www.bensonradiology.com.au

What is a Hysterosalpingogram?

A hysterosalpingogram or HSG is a special type of x-ray used to assess the Fallopian tubes and uterus.

What preparation is required?

An HSG is performed between day 4 and 11 of the menstrual cycle, after the menstrual period stops and before ovulation. If your period has started within the last week, it may be possible to arrange the test this month. If it is more than a week since your period, wait for your next first day of bleeding to phone to arrange your appointment.

If you do not have periods, the test can be performed at any time, but please ensure you have had a negative pregnancy test before your appointment.

Your doctor may suggest you take Panadol or Naprogesic 30 minutes before your appointment. If there is a previous history of pelvic infection, a prescription of antibiotics should be given to you by your doctor, and taken as instructed.

What will happen during the examination?

You will be asked to change into a gown and lie on the examination table as for a pelvic examination. A speculum is placed into the vagina, and then a small catheter is inserted into the uterine cavity. A small balloon on the catheter is inflated to hold it in place and make a seal. The contrast (x-ray dye) is injected slowly and flows into the uterine cavity and out through the tubes into the pelvis. The flow of the dye is monitored with the x-ray machine and several x-rays are taken to record the procedure.

You may experience some cramping as the dye is introduced, this should not be severe and generally settles quickly.

Are there any risks?

There is an extremely small risk of allergy to the x-ray dye used. Some women can feel faint during or after the examination. Very occasionally the test cannot provide all of the required information and the findings may need to be further evaluated, possibly with laparoscopy or hysteroscopy.

After the examination:

After the examination there may be a blood stained discharge for some hours, this is the contrast fluid draining from the uterus and vagina. A sanitary napkin/liner (rather than a tampon) should be worn to allow the fluid to escape. Whatever remains in the pelvis is absorbed, without any harmful effects.

Most women have no problems following the procedure, but some experience cramping. It is suggested the morning or afternoon of the test be set aside. If there has been a history of pelvic infection, this may be reactivated. If cramping, pain or fever develop within 48 hours of the test, please contact your referring doctor, or attend an emergency department.

The radiologist/nurse who performs the test will explain the findings to you after the examination. The examination will also be reported by our radiologist (specialist medical imaging doctor). This can take up to 90 minutes. For your convenience we can generally deliver the imaging and report to your doctor by the next working day. Alternatively your doctor may request that you wait or return later to collect the imaging and report.

These findings, and the results of your other tests, need to be discussed with your doctor.

It is important you understand why and how we will be assisting you. If you have any questions, please call one of our branches or speak to our staff on the day of your visit.