

HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM

Your Doctor has decided that this is the appropriate examination to investigate your condition. Any alternatives should have already been discussed with you.

WHAT IS A HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM?

This is a special x-ray examination of your womb and fallopian tubes using a liquid (contrast) which shows up on x-rays.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF HAVING A HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM?

This examination quickly shows if there are any blockages in your fallopian tubes and may give some information about your womb which will help the Gynaecologist to make a diagnosis about your problem.

ARE THERE ANY RISKS IN HAVING A HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM?

There are the usual slight risks associated with being x-rayed.

All X-ray procedures involve exposure to radiation in varying amounts. We are all exposed to small amounts of radiation from the atmosphere throughout our lives. Any amount of diagnostic radiation can add slightly to the normal risk of developing cancer. In all X-ray examinations, the amount of radiation is kept to the minimum necessary. Unfortunately, one in three of us are liable to develop a cancer at some stage during our lives, so the added risk from this test is very small indeed. This risk has to be balanced against the benefits you may achieve by having the procedure.

As there is a risk from radiation to the unborn child, this examination, wherever possible, must be done within the first 10 days from the start of your period, but after the period has finished. You must contact the X-ray department to arrange this on the first day of your next period.

The contrast that is injected contains iodine and some people are allergic to iodine. You will be asked if you have any history of allergies, such as asthma or hay fever. Reactions to the contrast are very rare and the seriousness varies widely.



Some people may get a sickly feeling or actually be sick. The x-ray department and its staff are fully aware of these risks and have the equipment and skills to deal with them.

If you are taking Metformin (Glucophage), do not take any on the day of the examination or for 48 hours after the procedure.

HOW LONG WILL I BE IN HOSPITAL FOR?

You will come usually to the x-ray department as an out-patient. The length of the examination varies between patients. You should allow 1 hour for your stay in the department. The actual examination usually takes 20-30 minutes.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ARRIVE AT THE DEPARTMENT?

A member of staff will check your details and if necessary amend them. On arrival in the department, please refrain from passing urine until called into the x-ray room by the radiographer.

BEFORE THE EXAMINATION.

You will be shown to a cubicle, asked to undress and change into a gown. A specially trained radiographer practitioner will explain the procedure to you and you will be asked to sign a consent form to confirm that you understand the examination.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE EXAMINATION?

The examination will be performed by a specially trained radiographer practitioner, with the help of an assistant practitioner and a radiology department assistant. A small catheter (tube) will be put into the neck of your womb and the contrast is then passed through the catheter to fill the womb and fallopian tubes. X-rays are taken whilst this is done and watched on a television screen. You will not be sedated at all.

During the examination you may be given an injection of a muscle relaxant to reduce spasm of the muscular walls of the fallopian tubes. **If you have glaucoma or a heart condition you must tell the staff before the examination starts.**

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE EXAMINATION?

After the examination, the team will ask you to wait for a few minutes to ensure that you do not feel unwell before leaving the department.

There may be a little bleeding afterwards so you may wish to bring a sanitary towel with you.

Pain relief: The use of Paracetamol or Ibuprofen is advisable if you experience abdominal pain or discomfort after the procedure. Please ensure, before taking any medication that you are safe to do so.

Tampons: Tampons may be sources of infection, therefore please do not use them following the examination or for your next period after the procedure.

Infection risk: The signs to look for are vaginal discharge, abdominal discomfort, and/or raised temperature. If you have any or all of these please arrange to see your GP.

It is advised that you refrain from working and physical activity following the examination for the rest of the day.

GOING HOME.

You can use your usual form of transport.

HOW WILL I GET MY RESULTS?

The initial findings will be discussed at the end of the examination although the full results will be sent to the doctor who sent you for this examination and you can discuss the report with them when you next visit. An appointment will be sent to you for an out-patient clinic.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF THERE IS A PROBLEM FOLLOWING MY EXAMINATION?

For advice, telephone Ground Floor Xray on 0161 922 6566 during the hours of 9.00am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Out of hours, telephone your GP.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

If you have any questions about the examination, please ring the department on 0161 922 6426/7 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday or write in the box provided and bring this leaflet with you.

SOURCE

In compiling this information leaflet, a number of recognised professional bodies including NHS Direct and accredited good practice guidelines have been used.

If you require an interpreter, please telephone the department on 0161 922 5764 at least 2 days before your appointment.

If you have a visual impairment, this leaflet can be made available in bigger print or on audiotape. If you require either of these options, please ring 0161 922 6426/7.

আপনি যদি এই তথ্য পড়তে বা বুঝতে না পারেন, তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে এথনিক হেলথ টিমের সাথে টেলিফোনে যোগাযোগ করুন 0161 331 5149/5150 এই নাম্বারে, তখন তারা আপনাকে সাহায্য করতে পারবে।

જો આપ આ માહિતી વાંચી છે અમણ શ્રાણો ગણિ તો છુપા કરી, અથલીક હંથ ટીમનો 0161 331 5149/5150 નંબર પર સંપર્ક સાધો તેઓ આપને જરૂર મદદ કરશે.

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