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HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM

What is a hysterosalpingogram?

A hysterosalpingogram (HSG) is an x-ray procedure used to determine the patency of the fallopian tubes and to evaluate the contour of the uterine cavity. The procedure aids in detecting abnormalities of the uterus which may cause infertility or repeated miscarriages. The procedure is sometimes done a few weeks or months after surgery in order to give information about the success of the surgery.

How is an HSG performed?

The optimum time to perform an HSG is day 7 through 10 of your menstrual cycle. It is very important that the accurate menstrual history is taken to avoid radiation if you are pregnant. Please arrive at least 15 minutes ahead of your scheduled appointment time to register.

An x-ray technician will greet you explain the procedure and accompany you throughout the entire exam. You will lie on your back on the x-ray table and vaginal speculum will be inserted into the vagina (much like when a pelvic exam is done). The cervix is cleaned with a non-irritant antiseptic solution and a small instrument is placed in cervical canal.

The contrast material (liquid dye) is then injected into the uterus and fallopian tubes. Some patients experience cramp-like pain much like that of a menstrual period cramp. A small percentage of women may experience prolonged discomfort, especially if the tubes are blocked and the liquid dye is unable to flow out of the uterus promptly. The actual progress of the unit looking like a TV monitor. X-ray pictures are taken a read by the radiologist. A report will be sent to your gynecologist within two working days.

Please check with your insurance carrier if you have questions regarding your benefits for this procedure.

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