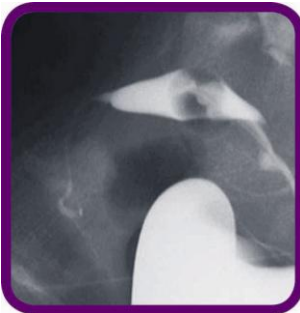




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# Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) Patient information

## Hysterosalpingogram (HSG)

A HSG is often requested in the investigation of infertility. It uses xrays and a contrast ('dye') to highlight the uterine cavity shape and the patency of the fallopian tubes.

## Preparation

A HSG is performed between day 4 – 11 of your menstrual cycle. Please ring on the first day of your period to arrange your HSG booking. This is to ensure that the procedure does not interfere with an early pregnancy and thus you will also need to perform a urine pregnancy test on the day of your HSG to ensure that you aren't pregnant. We ask that you come with a full bladder and not go to the toilet as a pregnancy test will need to be performed prior to your study.

## What to expect

You will be required to change into a patient gown for this procedure. It is performed in our xray fluoroscopy room where we can use our state-of-the-art equipment to follow the flow of dye through your uterus and fallopian tubes.

Our female Radiologist (imaging doctor) will insert a speculum into the vaginal and place a very small catheter into the uterus. This is held in place by inflating a little balloon to stabilize its position. This may cause some cramping like symptoms that should settle. The dye is introduced and watched in 'real time' on a TV monitor. Several xray pictures are taken and then the Radiologist will deflate the balloon and remove the catheter.

Due to the dye being introduced into the uterus, some blood stained fluid loss can normally be experienced.

Please allow 90 minutes for your examination, although your HSG study is usually complete in under 1 hour.

## What to bring

A spare change of underwear and sanitary liners.

You must always bring your request form from your doctor. Please note that we accept all radiology request forms. If you have any previous xrays at home that may be relevant to your examination, please bring these with you, they can sometimes help to give a more accurate assessment of your presenting condition.

Always bring your Medicare card and any other concession cards.

## Who does my xray?

A university trained Radiographer performs your xray. They are highly trained professionals that know how to achieve the best quality images to assess your area of concern.

A Radiologist (a doctor who is a specialist at interpreting the images) looks at all the images taken with your medical history to produce a diagnostic report.

A radiology nurse is usually present for this procedure as an assistant to both you and our Radiologist.

## When will I get the report?

Your report will be delivered to your referring practitioner and will be there by lunch on the following business day. If you require your results any earlier, please advise our reception staff and we will ensure they are ready for you.

## After care instructions

The following points should be considered following your HSG procedure:

- Blood stained fluid loss can be experienced for 24 hours after your procedure (avoid using tampons)
- Some pelvic cramping can be experienced and a mild analgesia (eg Nurofen, Paracetamol) can be taken either prior to, or after your procedure
- If severe cramping, pain or fever present within 48 – 72 hours after your HSG then you must contact your doctor immediately or present to an emergency department

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us or consult your referring physician.