

Hysterosalpingogram (HSG)

Dear Patient

You have been referred by your doctor for an examination of your uterus and fallopian tubes involving contrast agent (hysterosalpingogram, HSG). This letter will provide you with some important information about this procedure.

Why must a hysterosalpingogram be performed?

This examination enables the radiologist to assess the uterine cavity for malformations and pathological conditions which may hamper or prevent implantation of a fertilised egg. At the same time, it is possible to determine whether the fallopian tubes are blocked.

What preparations are necessary for a hysterosalpingogram?

If you have not received any premedication (medicine to prepare for the examination) from your doctor, you will be given a Buscopan suppository about 20 to 30 minutes before the procedure begins. This will relieve pain in the muscles.

How is the hysterosalpingogram performed?

In the presence of a qualified female radiologist, you will be positioned on the lower end of the x-ray table in a similar way to a gynaecological examination. After disinfecting your pubic area, the radiologist will insert a speculum to obtain an image of your cervix. The cervix will then be disinfected and a thin plastic catheter passed into the uterine cavity. A small balloon at the end of the catheter will then be filled with a maximum of 1.5 mL of air. This can sometimes cause a sensation of pressure comparable to menstrual discomfort.

Once the catheter is in place, you will be asked to take your legs out of the supports. We will then help to position you further up the X-ray table. With your legs now straight, a little contrast agent will be injected into the catheter and an X-ray method called fluoroscopy thereby used to view the cavity of the uterus and then the fallopian tubes. For the purpose of documentation, two X-ray images are usually taken. If the contrast agent flows into the abdominal cavity or comes to a stop in the fallopian tube, the examination will come to an end. The radiologist will subsequently remove the catheter.

After the examination, some of the contrast agent may leak from the vagina, and will usually be brownish in colour due to the disinfectant. You will be provided with a sanitary towel.

What complications and side effects are associated with a hysterosalpingogram?

Few risks are associated with the examination itself. However, despite taking utmost care complications can in rare cases occur and in exceptional circumstances may also be life-threatening.

- Frequently, a sensation of pressure or pulling similar to menstrual discomfort
- Rarely, light bleeding that does not require treatment
- Very rarely, inflammation of the uterus or abdominal cavity
- Very rarely, an allergic reaction to the contrast agent
- Very rarely, injury to the vagina, uterus or fallopian tubes

If the abdominal pain persists, or fever, heavier bleeding or other symptoms develop, you must consult your doctor immediately.

In the first few days after the examination you should avoid the use of tampons and vaginal douches.

What should I do after the examination?

You can return home once the examination is finished. If you experience dizziness or circulatory problems after the procedure, please contact us immediately.

When should the examination not be performed?

There are two absolute contraindications: pregnancy and infection.





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Name:	<input type="text"/>
First name:	<input type="text"/>
Date of birth:	<input type="text"/>

Please answer the following questions:

	Yes	No
■ Have you ever had a hysterosalpingogram?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
■ If so: when and where?		
■ Have you ever been given a contrast agent as part of a radiological procedure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
■ If so: were there any problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
■ Do you have any allergies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
■ Do you currently have an infection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
■ Do you have an overactive thyroid?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
■ Are you pregnant or could you be pregnant?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
■ Are you breastfeeding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
■ Date of the first day of your last period?		

If you have any further questions, please be sure to ask the examining doctor. He or she will gladly answer them.

I agree to the invoice being sent directly to my insurance company and being kept digitally for me at MRI.
I have understood the information, answered all questions to the best of my knowledge, and consent to the intervention.

Date:	<input type="text"/>	Signature of patient:	<input type="text"/>	Radiologist:	<input type="text"/>
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