



Procedure Information

Hysterosalpingogram (HSG)

Introduction

Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) is a radiological examination of checking the fallopian tube patency and the shape of uterus is normal, with the injection of contrast medium. The procedure is performed by radiologist under fluoroscopy.

Indications

Your doctor may recommend a Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) if you encounter any abnormal symptoms or have concerns, including:

- Reveal that the infertility is caused by obstructed fallopian tubes
- Check the shape of the uterus to find out the cause of recurrent miscarriage or abnormal vaginal bleeding

Procedures

1. The radiologist examines your pelvis and places a speculum in the vagina.
2. The cervix is cleaned. A cannula is placed into the opening of cervix. The doctor injects contrast medium into the uterus.
3. The contrast spills out when the fallopian tubes are patent. It can also visualize the tubes.
4. Any abnormalities inside the uterine cavity can also be detected by observing the X-ray images.

Possible Risks and Complications

1. Uterine cramping
 - HSG may cause mild or moderate uterine cramping. Generally, the cramping lasts for about 5-10 minutes. In some cases, the cramping may last for several hours. These symptoms can be relieved by painkillers.
2. Pelvic infection
 - It usually occurs when a woman has history of tubal disease. In rare cases, infection can cause damage to the fallopian tubes and surgical removal of the fallopian tubes may be required. You should inform the referral doctor if you experience increasing pain or have a fever in 1-2 days after the procedure.
3. Dizziness
 - In rare cases, the patient may feel dizzy during or right after the procedure.
4. Allergies to contrast
 - Allergic reactions to the contrast solution used in HSG may occur, but are rare. If you are allergic to iodine, contrast solution or seafood, notify your doctor before the procedure. Other dye solutions will be prepared for the procedure. If you have itching, rashes or swelling after the procedure, notify your doctor.
5. Spotting
 - Spotting (brownish/ pinkish) for 1-2 days after the HSG is not uncommon. However, if you have heavy vaginal bleeding, notify your doctor.

** The risks listed above are in general terms and the possibility of complications is not exhaustive. Please understand that even though all procedures are carried out with utmost professionalism and care, this does not rule out the possibility of complications arising and may require another operation to deal with the complications.

Pre-procedure Preparations

1. The procedure and possible complications will be explained by the doctor and a consent form must be signed prior to the procedure.
2. Please inform the doctor and nurse all your past medical history, previous surgical operations, current medication and any complication with drug or anaesthesia.
3. Female who are or might be pregnant must inform to the staff.
4. Please bring all relevant imaging films and reports for comparison.
5. Hysterosalpingogram should be done during the 8th to 10th day of menstruation.
6. Couples must refrain from intercourse from Day 1 of the menstrual cycle to the day of procedure.
7. Take medication as prescribed by the doctor as instructed.
8. Please change into a surgical gown after removing clothing including undergarments and jewellery.

Post-procedure Instructions

1. You can resume normal activities. Refrain from intercourse for a few days if instructed by the doctor.
2. An adult should be arranged to accompany you when leaving the hospital.
3. Take medication as prescribed by the doctor as instructed.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult our department (MEI).

Under the professional care of the doctor, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the doctor to further follow-up.

Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

The above information is for reference only, please enquire your physician for details
Our Hospital reserves the RIGHT to amend any information in this leaflet without prior notification