

Hysterosalpingogram

Radiology Department Patient Information Leaflet

Under Review

What is a hysterosalpingogram?

A hysterosalpingogram (HSG) is a way of looking at the uterus (womb) and fallopian tubes using X-rays and a contrast dye.

Why have an HSG?

It is a test which can be used to assess the shape and size of your womb and whether your fallopian tubes are open. It can help to investigate infertility and is sometimes used after sterilisation to check whether the operation has been successful.

Where will it take place?

The examination will take place in the X-ray Department at Russells Hall Hospital.

When is it done?

An HSG has to be done at a particular stage of the menstrual cycle, approximately between day eight and day fourteen. Therefore please ring us on the first day of your period (day one of the cycle), so that we can arrange your appointment.

After sterilisation you will need to wait two months before ringing us for an appointment. You will need to continue using contraception until the results of the test are known.

Once an appointment has been made you must not have sex from the first day of your period until after the HSG test. This is to avoid having X-rays during a very early pregnancy.

Do I need to do anything to prepare for the test?

You do not need to change your diet or treatment. You should continue to take your medicines as normal.

You may get some 'spotting' afterwards so please bring a panty liner (not a tampon) on day of examination.

What does it involve?

- You will be asked to lie down on an X-ray table.
- The radiologist will insert a speculum into your vagina (similar to having a smear test) and then pass a small tube through the speculum into the neck of your womb.
- Contrast dye (actually a clear liquid) is then passed through the tube into your womb and X-ray images are taken.

Will it hurt?

You may feel a pain similar to period cramps during the procedure so you might want to take painkillers such as paracetamol before the examination – follow the manufacturer's instructions and do not exceed the stated dose.

Are there any side effects, risks or complications from either the preparation or the test?

There is a very low risk of getting an infection. Every precaution is taken to prevent this from occurring and the radiologist performing the test will answer any questions that you may have.

If you are worried about any symptoms you have please contact the Radiology Department on 01384 222002 or your GP for advice.

X-ray precautions:

- The procedure uses X-rays and these use a small amount of radiation which may add slightly to the normal risk of cancer.
- In radiology departments every effort is made to keep radiation doses low. The radiation doses from X-ray examinations or isotope scans are small in relation to those we receive from natural background radiation.
- You should tell your GP or hospital consultant about any other recent X-rays or scans you have had, in case they make further examinations unnecessary.

Female patients – you must tell us if you are or might be pregnant. If you are not sure a pregnancy test will be offered.

What happens after the test?

You will have spotting for a day or two after the test due to the contrast dye coming out of your womb.

How do I get the results?

A radiologist will interpret the X-rays and the results will be sent to your GP or the consultant who referred you for the test within two weeks. Your consultant may write to you with the results of the test, or they may be given to you at an outpatient clinic appointment which will be sent to you through the post. If you were referred for the test by your GP you will need to arrange an appointment to see them for the results.

What are the alternatives to an HSG?

A laparoscopy and dye test is an alternative to an HSG. You may need to have a combination of tests before your consultant can make a diagnosis. They will explain the options available to you.

Can I find out more?

For more information about this examination you can look at the NHS Choices website:

www.nhs.uk

If you have any questions, if there is anything you do not understand about this leaflet or if you cannot make the date for the appointment please contact:

Radiology Department on 01384 244002
(9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)

This leaflet can be made available in large print, audio version and in other languages, please call 0800 0730510

ਜੇਕਰ ਇਹ ਲੀਫਲੈੱਟ (ਛੋਟਾ ਇਸਤਿਹਾਰ) ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ (ਪੰਜਾਬੀ) ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਪੇਸ਼ਟ ਇੰਨਫਰਮੇਸ਼ਨ ਕੋ-ਆਰਡੀਨੇਟਰ ਨਾਲ **0800 0730510** ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

यदि आपको यह दस्तावेज़ अपनी भाषा में चाहिये तो पेशेंट इनफ़रमेशन को-आरडीनेटर को टैलीफ़ोन नम्बर **0800 0730510** पर फ़ोन करें।

જો તમને આ પત્રિકા તમારી પોતાની ભાષા (ગુજરાતી)માં જોઈતી હોય, તો કૃપા કરીને પેશન્ટ ઇન્ફોર્મેશન કો-ઓર્ડિનેટરનો **0800 0730510** પર સંપર્ક કરો.

आपनि यदि এই প্রচারপত্রটি আপনার নিজের ভাষায় পেতে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে পেশেন্ট ইনফরমেশন কো-অর্ডিনেটরের সাথে **0800 0730510** এই নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন।

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مہم ضرورت اریلف ایٹ کوٹھا زبان (اردو) میں حاصل کرنے کے لئے رومہ رہائی ٹیلیفون نمبر **0800 0730510** پوزیشن کو اور ڈیپارٹمنٹ (مریضوں کے لئے معلومات کی فراہمی کے سلسلے میں) کے ساتھ رابطہ کریں۔

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