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## HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM

### HSG - HYSTERO (uterus) SALPINGO (tube) GRAM (picture)

**Why is it done?** The HSG is an X-ray exam, which is performed to examine the shape of the uterine cavity and to determine if the fallopian tubes are open and free from obstruction.

**How is it done?** The HSG is done in the radiology department. Your physician will slowly inject dye into the uterus, which will flow through the tubes and into the pelvic cavity. The flow of dye can be seen by the doctor and the patient on a TV screen through fluoroscopy. If no dye is seen in the tubes or the pelvic cavity immediately, a delayed picture (x-ray) may be taken 30 minutes later.

**Is it painful?** Some women may experience moderate cramping following injection of the dye. The cramping may last several hours. Some women benefit from taking a medication such as Motrin or Advil before the procedure. Many women prefer to have their partner or a friend drive them to and from the hospital, and provide moral support during the procedure.

**What are the risks?** The risks of HSG are related to the small possibility of pelvic infection or allergic reaction to iodine-based x-ray dye. If you have an allergy to iodine, you **must** inform your physician.

**What is the cost?** The radiology department and facility fee is *approximately* \$300.00. The physician's fee is *approximately* \$282.00. Arrangements should be made prior to the procedure with the financial counselors at the institution where the procedure is performed.

**Scheduling your HSG:** An HSG is done ***usually between days 7 and 12 of a normal cycle***, after menstrual flow has stopped, but before ovulation occurs. This time is selected so that menstrual blood or fertilized eggs are not flushed out the fallopian tubes into the pelvic cavity. **Call your physician's office (581-3834) on the first day of your period, or before an anticipated period if possible so the procedure can be scheduled during the 7-12 days.** If your period starts on a Saturday or Sunday, call Monday morning. Appointments are arranged between doctor's office and radiology.

**Preparing for your HSG:** Four hours before your appointment you should refrain from any food or drink (you may have a small amount of water to take with Motrin or Advil). Although the injection of dye only takes a few minutes, you should plan on your appointment taking about an hour. (Don't forget your red and white hospital card!)

**After your HSG:** Cramping may or may not continue for several hours after the procedure. Fluid may escape from the uterus for several hours. There is always a small risk of infection (about one in one hundred) when dye is placed inside the body. If you experience a fever, chills, foul smelling discharge, or pain, please call your doctor's office or the emergency room. Final results will be available one to two weeks after the procedure, your physician will either call you or set up an appointment or meet with you in order to discuss the findings.