

Please Note:

This leaflet explains some of the most common side-effects that some people may experience. However, it is not comprehensive. If you experience other side-effects after the test, please contact your GP.

*Approvals:
Specialist Group: Radiology
Gynae Guidelines Group: Nov 2017
Divisional Board: O&G SDU Jul 2018
Clinical Guidelines Subgroup: Not required
Lay Reps: Aug 2018
Equality Impact Assessment: Aug 2018
Patient Experience Group: Jan 2019*

Division of Women, Children & Sexual Health Services

How can I help to reduce healthcare associated infections?

Infection control is important to the well-being of our patients and for that reason we have infection control procedures in place. Keeping your hands clean is an effective way of preventing the spread of infections. We ask that you, and anyone visiting you, use the hand sanitiser available at the entrance to every ward before coming into and after leaving the ward. In some situations hands may need to be washed at the sink using soap and water rather than using the hand sanitiser. Staff will let you know if this is the case.

**www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk
Follow us on Twitter @buckshealthcare**

Author: F Ashworth
Issue date: February 2019
Review date: February 2023

Leaflet code: WZZ2039
Version: 1

HYSTEROSALPINGOGRAM (HSG)

Please read inside this leaflet for details of when and where to phone (01494 425995) for your appointment.

Date of appointment:

Time:

Site: Wycombe Hospital X-ray Department OR
Stoke Mandeville Hospital X-ray Department

Patient information leaflet

If you want this leaflet in another language please call
01494 425995

Safe & compassionate care,

every time

Hysterosalpingogram (HSG)

HSG is a radiological (X-ray) test to see whether the fallopian tubes are open and the shape of the uterine cavity. All the information you need about the test is in this leaflet.

The Doctor will have contacted the X-ray Department about the need for you to have the test. However, **you need to book the test date by telephoning the X-Ray department within 6 weeks of being given this leaflet.** Please note: If you do not contact the X-Ray Department the doctor will be informed and you will not be able to book the HSG.

Telephone the X-ray Department (**01494 425995**) on the first day of your next period. If this day is at the weekend, please telephone on the following Monday.

The date and time for the test will be given to you on the telephone, so please have your diary available and write the appointment date on the front page of this leaflet. You will not receive an appointment letter in the post.

After you have been given a date for the HSG, you **must not have sex** (protected or not) from the first day of this period until after the test has been performed. If you do, the Radiologist will cancel the appointment due to the possibility of a very early pregnancy and the exposure to radiation (X-rays).

If your periods are less frequent than every 5 weeks, please telephone to arrange your appointment on **01296 316917**. In this case, you must not have sex (protected or not) for the two weeks prior to the appointment. We will then take a pregnancy test before the HSG is started.

If you are not sure about these instructions, please telephone the radiology secretary on 01296 316917.

You can still have the HSG test even if you are still having your period, usually from the fourth day onwards.

Please bring a sanitary towel with you.

It is important to let us know if you are allergic to anything before you have the test.

The HSG test takes approximately 30 minutes and you may wish to rest for a while afterwards. We therefore recommend that you arrange to be in the department for up to 2 hours.

If you need to bring children with you, please bring someone to look after them in the waiting room whilst you are having the HSG test.

What will happen during the HSG?

In a private room, the radiology doctor or nurse will pass a speculum into your vagina so that they can see your cervix (neck of the womb). They will then pass a tube through your cervix into which they will inject a dye (known as contrast media). This dye allows the radiology doctor or nurse to look at the shape of your uterine cavity, and see whether the fallopian tubes are passing the dye. An X-ray monitor is used to produce images.

During the test you may feel some mild discomfort, like period pain, and some stinging when the dye goes into your pelvis. The dye, which is colourless and has no smell, will be absorbed through your bowel and passed within your urine.

The test result will be available in approximately 2 weeks' time and a report will be sent to your referring doctor.

After the test

You may feel some period like pain after the test and have some light vaginal bleeding. The Radiologist may prescribe antibiotics if he/she feels that there may have been a previous infection in the pelvis.

You may continue your normal lifestyle after the test, return to work the next day and have sex as soon as you feel comfortable.