

# Hysterosalpingography

## Appointment Information

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## About

Hysterosalpingography is an x-ray examination of the uterus and fallopian tubes that uses a special form of x-ray called fluoroscopy and a contrast material. During a hysterosalpingogram, the uterus and fallopian tubes are filled with a contrast material and the radiologist is able to use fluoroscopy to view and assess their anatomy and function.

Hysterosalpingography is primarily used to examine women who have difficulty becoming pregnant by allowing the radiologist to evaluate the shape and structure of the uterus, the openness of the fallopian tubes, and any scarring within the uterine or abdominal cavity.

The exam is used to investigate repeated miscarriages that result from abnormalities in the uterus and to determine the presence and severity of the following abnormalities:

- Tumor Masses
- Adhesions
- Uterine Fibroids

Hysterosalpingography is also used to evaluate the openness of the fallopian tubes, and to monitor the effects of tubal surgery, including:

- Blockage of the fallopian tubes due to infection or scarring
- Tubal ligation
- The closure of the fallopian tubes in a sterilization procedure and a sterilization reversal
- The re-opening of the fallopian tubes following a sterilization or disease-related blockage

## Preparations

The hysterosalpingography procedure is best performed one week after menstruation but before ovulation to make certain that you are not pregnant during the exam. This procedure should not be performed if you have an active inflammatory condition. You should notify your radiologist if you have a chronic pelvic infection or an untreated sexually transmitted disease at the time of the procedure.

On the night before the procedure, you may be asked to take a laxative or an enema to empty your bowels, so the uterus and surrounding structures can be seen clearly. Prior to the procedure, you may be given a mild sedative or over-the-counter medication to minimize any potential discomfort.

You should inform your radiologist of any medications you are taking and if you have any allergies, especially to barium or iodinated contrast materials. Also inform your doctor about recent illnesses or other medical conditions.

You may be asked to wear a gown during the exam. Women should always inform their radiologist if there is any possibility that they are pregnant.