



ROCKY MOUNTAIN FERTILITY CENTER  
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## HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM

The purpose of a hysterosalpingogram (HSG) is to make sure that the uterine cavity is of normal shape and that the fallopian tubes are open. These exams are carried out by a radiologist. For these tests a radiologist and a Xray technician will be present. These tests are performed between day 6 and 10 of your cycle, with day 1 being the day you begin your period. ***Please let us know if your period does not seem to be normal. The X-ray can not be performed if you are pregnant or have an active pelvic infection. Additionally, the X-ray cannot be performed if you are allergic to iodine or x-ray dye.*** About an hour before the exam you should take ibuprofen, 600 mg (Motrin/Advil use over the counter) or a similar medication to minimize some mild to moderate cramping you may experience. The entire procedure takes approximately 45 minutes. When you call the office the Patient Care Coordinator will take a message and a nurse will call you back to schedule your test.

The procedure, involves the use of a speculum (the same instrument used for Pap smear exams). The speculum is introduced into the vagina and the cervix is visualized. Two instruments (tenaculum and cannula) are then attached to the cervix and the dye is injected through the cervix until it fills the uterine cavity and tubes. Several pictures are then taken after which the instruments are removed. Cramping occurs when the uterus is filled with fluid and for about 15 minutes after the procedure. The risks of the procedure include: (1) allergic reaction to the dye used, (2) developing an infection from the procedure, and (3) damage to the pelvic structures from the instruments used. These complications are rare.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENTS AFTER HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM (HSG)

Listed are some basic precautions and information about the hysterosalpingogram (HSG) procedure which you have just had. If you have questions, please ask the physician who performed the test, or call the office during business hours. If there is an emergency after hours please call and have the physician on call paged.

1. You may experience a light discharge and some vaginal spotting or bleeding which might be as heavy as a light period. Do not worry unless it is persistent or heavy.
2. You may experience some mild to moderate cramping for 24 to 72 hours. It is safe to take ibuprofen (Motrin/Advil/Nuprin) or a similar medication, if you are not allergic.
3. To minimize the risk of infection from the procedure avoid douching, tampons, and intercourse for 48 hours. If you feel like you may have a fever, take your temperature and call the office if it is greater than 101°. Finish your antibiotic, if prescribed.
4. Please schedule an appointment with Dr. Smith when all your studies and lab work have been completed to discuss the next step in your management.