

Hysterosalpingogram

Patient Information



What is a Hysterosalpingogram?

A Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) is a special x-ray procedure that uses contrast medium and x-rays to look at the inside of the uterus and fallopian tubes. The procedure gives your doctor information about complete or partial blockage in the fallopian tubes. It also shows if the inside of the uterus is of a normal size and shape and is used to diagnose pregnancy related issues.

How do I prepare for the procedure?

- Please inform your doctor or the technologist if you have an active inflammatory condition, chronic pelvic infection or an untreated sexually transmitted disease, before the procedure.
- Please also inform your doctor if you have any allergies or have had a bad reaction to any procedure in the past.
- The examination should be done between the 8th and 10th day of your menstrual cycle. If your period does not start on the date it was due or if it started earlier than expected, contact the X-ray Department at the Aga Khan University Hospital to reschedule your appointment accordingly.
- Please refrain from sexual intercourse after menstruation and before the procedure. This is because if you get pregnant, the procedure may be harmful to the baby.
- Please fast for four hours prior to the procedure.

What will happen during the procedure?

- You will be asked to lie on your back with your knees bent or your feet held up in stirrups.
- A speculum (a device that helps in pelvic exams) will be inserted into the vagina. After cleaning the cervix, a catheter will be inserted into the cervix.
- The speculum will then be removed and you will be carefully positioned under the fluoroscopy x-ray machine.
- The uterine cavity and fallopian tubes will be filled up with contrast material through the catheter and x-ray images will be taken.

What will happen after the procedure?

- Some amount of contrast material may remain in the uterus and will gradually leak out through the vagina.
- Contrast left in your pelvis will be absorbed safely by the body. After the procedure, you may feel cramping and minor spotting (light bleeding). Both will settle down in 2-3 days and should not be a cause for concern.

Will the procedure hurt?

- You may feel minor discomfort when the speculum and catheter are inserted into the vagina and the contrast material is injected.
- There may also be mild lower abdominal pain after the procedure, but that should go away soon.
- Please contact your doctor if you have any signs of an allergic reaction including itching, redness, difficulty breathing, swelling or dizziness.

Scheduling an appointment

Please contact the AKUH Contact Centre at 021-111-911-911 to book your appointment.

Please note the following:

- Bring your doctor's prescription and previous medical/radiology records on the day of the procedure.
- Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your appointment for registration and other formalities. Late arrival may lead to delay/rescheduling of your examination.
- Patients requiring urgent attention may be given priority. This may result in a delay in starting your procedure. Your cooperation in this regard will be highly appreciated.
- It is advisable to bring an attendant with you.
- If you have any queries, please contact us on 021-111-911-911.