

Hysterosalpingogram ("HSG")

In order to evaluate the uterine anatomy as well as to confirm that that the fallopian tubes are open, a hysterosalpingogram (aka "HSG") test is done. A speculum exam is initially performed by the radiologist in order to access the cervix. The radiologist will then introduce a small plastic tube through the cervical canal into the uterine cavity. Through this tube radiological dye will be injected slowly. Pictures using an X-ray machine over your abdomen are then taken as the dye enters the uterus and the fallopian tube.

Because of a small theoretical risk of pelvic infection resulting from the dye test, we recommend that you take 200 mg of doxycycline or 250 mg or azithromycin one hour prior to the procedure with a large glass of water. Have your physician give you an Rx for this.

You will often feel significant cramping as the dye is injected. *Taking Ibuprofen (Advil) 600 mg one hour before the test with a large glass of water is highly recommended.* If you feel very anxious about the test we will gladly give you a prescription for some valium-just ask us! Because of the cramping during the procedure and after, we recommend that you have somebody drive you home after the HSG. It is a good idea to take off for the rest of the day. It is also a good idea to take some more Ibuprofen (Advil) if cramping continues in the afternoon. You might notice some of the clear dye, that was used, drain out of your vagina. You might also notice some small amount of spotting, which might last for another day or two. Most people can return to work the following day. If you have fever, nausea and vomiting or severe abdominal pain a few days after the test please contact us. We know you are anxious to find out the results as soon as possible, but it takes the radiologist several days to examine and to transcribe the results. In our experience, it takes about 5 working days for us to receive the results of

your test.

HOW DO I SCHEDULE THE "HSG"

As soon as your period starts, call the radiology department to schedule it.

The test is usually done between 8-12 days after the beginning of the menses. It is important that your menses has ended by the time the test is done since the uterine cavity will then be empty allowing for better visualization of the anatomy. Please practice protected intercourse during the cycle of the HSG in order to ensure you are not pregnant at the time of the test. *The HSG can cause a miscarriage if you are pregnant at the time of the test*.