

# Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) and Lipiodol HSG

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET INT13



## Your appointment:

Date: .....

Time: .....

Location: .....

Please see our website for more branch details.

## Duration of examination:

The examination takes up to 30 minutes.

## Please bring with you:

- > Your request form
- > All previous relevant imaging
- > Medicare and any Healthcare cards

## Payment on the day of the examination is requested.

For more information on this procedure please call one of our branches.

For more information regarding Benson Radiology please visit:

[bensonradiology.com.au](http://bensonradiology.com.au)

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## What is an HSG?

A hysterosalpingogram or HSG is a special type of x-ray used to assess the fallopian tubes and uterus.

## What preparation is required?

An HSG is performed between day four and 11 of the menstrual cycle, after the menstrual period stops and before ovulation. If your period has started within the last week, it may be possible to arrange the test this month. If it is more than a week since your period, wait for your next first day of bleeding to phone to arrange your appointment.

If you are not menstruating, the test can be performed at any time, but please ensure you have had a negative pregnancy test before your appointment.

Your doctor may suggest you take Panadol or Naprogesic 30 minutes before your appointment. If there is a previous history of pelvic infection, a prescription of antibiotics should be given to you by your doctor, and taken as instructed.

## What will happen during the examination?

You will be asked to change into a gown and lie on the examination table. A speculum is placed into the vagina, and then a small catheter is inserted into the uterine cavity. A small balloon on the catheter is inflated to hold it in place and make a seal.

Contrast (x-ray dye) is then injected slowly and flows into the uterine cavity and out through the tubes into the pelvis. The flow of the dye is monitored via x-ray images. You may experience some cramping as the dye is introduced, this should not be severe and generally settles quickly.

## Are there any risks?

There is an extremely small risk of allergy to the contrast used. Some women may feel faint during or after the examination.

Very occasionally the test may not provide all the required information and further evaluation, possibly with laparoscopy or hysteroscopy, may be required.

## After the examination

After the examination there may be a blood stained discharge for some hours, this is the contrast fluid draining from the uterus and vagina. A sanitary napkin/liner (rather than a tampon) should be worn to allow the fluid to escape. Whatever remains in the pelvis is absorbed, without any harmful effects.

The morning or afternoon of the test should be set aside. While most women have no problems post procedure, some may experience cramping.

Also, if there has been a history of pelvic infection, this may be reactivated. If cramping, pain or fever develop within 48 hours of the test, please contact your referring doctor or emergency department.

The examination will be reported by our radiologist (specialist medical imaging doctor). These results will be communicated to your treating doctor in accordance with your doctors preferred communication method (eg hard copy films or electronic).

The findings and results of your tests need to be discussed with your doctor.

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For those undergoing Lipiodol HSG, please see information over page

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# Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) and Lipiodol HSG

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### Lipiodol HSG

Benson Radiology also offers Lipiodol HSG.

This examination is very similar to a conventional HSG.

The major difference is that this study uses Lipiodol (a poppy seed oil based contrast agent) to flush the fallopian tubes.

In terms of patient experience, all elements of the actual examination remain the same as the traditional HSG.

### Provision of Lipiodol

An important difference however is the fact that the Lipiodol must be supplied by the patient.

Your referring specialist will write you a prescription for Lipiodol prior to your examination.

Your prescription must be filled and the vial brought with you on the day of your appointment.

It may be worth checking that your preferred pharmacy can obtain Lipiodol.

While Benson Radiology does not have any agreements with particular pharmacies, we can help direct you if required.

### Contraindications

Lipiodol is contraindicated in patients with iodine or poppy seed allergies. Please discuss this with your referring specialist.

### Post procedure

You will remain in our department for observation for approximately 30 minutes.

Following this, we recommend you follow any post procedure instructions and follow-up plans as directed by your referring specialist.

### Where this examination is performed

The Lipiodol HSG is performed by a small group of specialised radiologists at our North Adelaide clinic.

For further information about this examination, contact our North Adelaide clinic on 8331 5900.