



**Napa Solano Service Area  
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## **HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM Patient Information**

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**APPOINTMENT DATE AND TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM**

#### **INFORMATION ON YOUR HYSTEOSALPINGOGRAM**

(HSG, or X-ray dye test)

The HSG is an x-ray that is done to examine the shape of the uterine cavity (the womb) and to make sure that your fallopian tubes are open. Your fallopian tubes connect your uterus to your ovaries, and if they are blocked, eggs and sperm cannot meet, and fertilization cannot occur.

Abnormalities of the uterine cavity detectable by HSG include some kinds of fibroid (non-cancerous tumor), polyps, scar tissue, and problems with the general development and shape of the uterus. The HSG can also show whether the fallopian tubes are open (patent) and normal. The HSG cannot diagnose endometriosis, problems with your ovaries, or the presence of scar tissue outside the uterus.

There is a small risk that an HSG may be followed by pelvic infection that may necessitate hospital admission for antibiotic treatment. Such an infection could damage your fallopian tubes, and this might lead to additional infertility treatments. To reduce the risk of such an infection, you may be prescribed an antibiotic. This antibiotic will be ordered at the Kaiser Pharmacy.

The HSG involves the placement of a speculum into the vagina and instillation of a small quantity of a clear liquid into your uterine cavity by means of a thin tube. This liquid is visible on x-ray film and outlines your uterine cavity and fallopian tubes. The liquid contains iodine, and if you are allergic to iodine, seafood, or radiological contrast media ("x-ray dye"), then you need to let us know so that we can avoid an allergic reaction.

Any discomfort or spotting that you may have following an HSG should resolve within a few hours or a day or two. If you have progressively worsening pain, bleeding, abnormal vaginal discharge, fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or other serious symptoms, then you should call our office at 707-624-3215.

A "spin-off" of a normal HSG is that during the ensuing three months or so, your chance of becoming pregnant is increased.

## HSG INSTRUCTIONS:

CALL ON CYCLE DAY 1, WHICH IS THE FIRST DAY OF FULL FLOW OF YOUR PERIOD.

1) The exam must be performed during a specific time during your cycle (after bleeding has stopped completely but before ovulation, between cycle day 6 and 12)

Please call us on the first day of full flow of your menstrual cycle to review the appropriate timing and schedule your appointment.

2) Avoid unprotected sexual intercourse from the end of your menstrual cycle until the exam has been performed. Please do a urine pregnancy test 1-2 days prior to your HSG. It can be done at any Kaiser Lab that is convenient for you. Doing an HSG while pregnant may harm your pregnancy.

3) Many women experience minimal or no discomfort from an HSG, but in general, we recommend the following preparation:

- take 600 to 800 mg of ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, etc.) about 1 to 2 hours before the x-ray with some food.

If you have problems with ibuprofen, Aspirin, or Aspirin-like drugs, or a history of stomach ulcers, then Tylenol may be substituted. Take 2 over the counter extra strength Tylenol instead of the Motrin.

4) If your pregnancy test is negative, and if you were prescribed an antibiotic, then start the antibiotic as directed. We most commonly prescribe doxycycline

Take one pill the night before the test. The next pill will be taken 1 hour prior to the procedure. Continue to take another pill that night and then, the next day, one pill twice daily until completed.

If you do not have a prescription, or if you are allergic to doxycycline, please call us at 707-624-3215.

5) You may have a light breakfast and lunch on the day of the examination.

7) Please bring a pad or panty liner. Do not use a tampon, douche or have intercourse for 2 days after the test.

8) If you are allergic to shellfish or iodine (Betadine) on your skin or vagina, please tell the technologist prior to the exam.

9) The HSG may require a substantial co-pay, depending on your health plan.

10) Register in the Radiology Department 15 minutes before your appointment time. Plan on spending about 1 hour overall. The exam itself should take about 30 minutes.

11) If you arrive late, your test may have to be rescheduled.

12) The result of the HSG will not be reported to you at [www.kp.org](http://www.kp.org), however, on occasion, the radiologist may tell you of the result at the time of the procedure. Otherwise, please send me a message.

Should you have any questions concerning this appointment or these instructions, or if you need to cancel, please call the clinic. Reproductive Health Department in Vacaville at (707)624-3215.