



# Women's Health Specialists

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## HSG

Hysterosalpingography (HSG) is an x-ray examination used to help examine the uterus, cervix and fallopian tubes. It is used to most often in infertility work ups to diagnose fallopian tube blockage. It may also be used for suspected intrauterine tumor, mass or congenital malformations.

An HSG is commonly performed in a hospital by a radiologist. A mild sedative may be administered prior to the procedure. Antibiotics may be prescribed to prevent infection. The procedure usually takes about 5 minutes. A speculum is inserted into the vagina and the cervix is grasped with a tenaculum. The cervix and vagina are cleansed with an antiseptic and dye (contrast medium) is slowly inserted into the uterus and x-rays are taken as the dye is being injected through the cervix. As the dye is injected there is cramping of the uterus. You may be asked to change positions for different x-ray views. The x-rays will show the outline of the uterus and fallopian tubes as the dye fills them. At the end of the procedure, all instruments are removed.

If the fallopian tubes are blocked the dye will not spill out of them. Any abnormalities of the uterine cavity will also be outlined by the dye. The results of the study will be explained to you by your doctor.