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## *Information for You from Your Health Care Team*

### **Hysterosalpingography**

#### **What is it?**

It is an x-ray of the uterus (womb) and fallopian tubes. It is helped by a special fluid (contrast dye) which is placed in the uterus through the opening in the cervix.

#### **How do they do the test?**

In the department where x-rays are taken, you will lie flat on your back on the xray table with your knees pulled up to your chest. This is called the lithotomy position. A speculum like used for pap smear exams is inserted into the vagina. The cervix is cleaned with a special cleaner. A fluoroscope is inserted through the cervix and the special fluid(contrast dye) is injected into the uterus(womb) and fallopian tubes. This fluid makes it easier to see the uterus and tubes on the x-ray.

#### **Do I need to do anything special?**

Your physician may give you a laxative the night before the test. Any stool in the rectum can make seeing the uterus harder. A sedative may be given to help you relax during the procedure. A consent will be signed before the test and you will wear a hospital gown during the test.

Inform your physician before any test of your allergies especially if it is to contrast dye.

#### **What will I feel like during and after the test?**

The test is like a vaginal exam as during a PAP smear. Some cramping may occur and occasionally some pain if the contrast medium leaks into the abdominal cavity.

#### **What risks are there?**

There is slight risk of:

- uterine infection
- fallopian tube infection
- perforation of the uterus
- allergic reaction to the contrast dye

#### **When is this test done?**

This test is done for:

- uterine tumors
- intrauterine adhesions
- obstruction of the fallopian tube
- tubal adhesions
- traumatic injury
- foreign objects

## **Hysterosalpingography (Continued)**

### **What are the results?**

All the above may be found including pregnancy outside the uterus and scarring. Everything may be normal.

### **Can this test be done any time?**

The test should not be done if you have pelvic inflammatory disease, you have vaginal bleeding of unknown origin, or if you are menstruating.

**Speak Up if You Have Questions or Concerns**