

Midwest Fertility Specialists

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Hysterosalpingogram

A Hysterosalpingogram (HSG) is a radiologic (x-ray) procedure in which dye is injected through the cervix into the uterus and fallopian tubes. HSGs allow visualization of the uterus and fallopian tubes to be sure the uterine cavity is normal and the fallopian tubes are open.

HSGs are typically performed between days 5 and 10 of the menstrual cycle. In the x-ray department, a speculum is inserted into the vagina by the physician and a small instrument is attached to the cervix. An iodine-based x-ray material is then injected slowly. The entire procedure is observed under fluoroscopy and x-rays are taken. The entire procedure takes about 10 minutes. No anesthesia is required and any pain after the procedure is minimal.

The HSG allows for the inside of the cervix, uterus, and fallopian tubes to be seen. Abnormalities of the uterus, including congenital anomalies, scarring, and masses are identifiable. Patency of the tubes and their normalcy can be noted. HSGs do not provide information about the outside of the tubes or about the surrounding structures. Therefore, endometriosis and pelvic adhesions, for example, may not be detected by an HSG.

HSGs are not pain-free. During the procedure, you may experience some cramping (much like bad menstrual cramps). These usually disappear very quickly after the procedure. Less than 1% of all patients undergoing an HSG may develop an infection as a result of the procedure. Should you develop a fever or unusual pain after the procedure, please notify your physician.

Allergic reactions to the x-ray dye can also occur, but this is very rare. If you are allergic to iodine, you should not have an HSG.

If you are taking Metformin, Glucophage or Fortamet due to elevated insulin levels/polycystic ovaries, you will need to stop this medication two days prior to the HSG. You may resume taking this medication two days after the HSG.

How to proceed:

The physicians at Midwest Fertility Specialists (MFS) and the staff at The Surgery Center of Carmel and Inverness Surgery Center are pleased to offer HSGs in a comfortable, patient-friendly environment, and at low cost.

On day 1 of your period (or Monday if your period starts on the weekend), please call the appropriate MFS office to schedule your HSG with one of the MFS physicians. If there is any doubt about the normalcy of your period, please notify your physician's office so a pregnancy test can be performed. We must be certain you are not pregnant before performing an HSG.

During this first phone call to schedule the procedure, we will confirm demographic, health and insurance information. We will also confirm that you have been given a prescription for an antibiotic. Take the prescribed antibiotic beginning the day before the HSG, and continue this the day of and the day after the procedure. Take one of the following 45 minutes before the HSG: **either** 600 mg of Ibuprofen **or** 1000 mg of Acetaminophen (if not allergic).

HSGs are performed by MFS physicians at The Surgery Center of Carmel and at Inverness Surgery Center in Fort Wayne. Please refer to the maps on the back of this form. Patients are asked to register at least 20 minutes before their scheduled procedure time.

Since no sedation is used during the procedure, patients may drive themselves to and from the procedure. Patients are usually able to return to work immediately afterwards. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact a staff person at MFS.

Form: 167M