

**SALMANIYA MEDICAL
COMPLEX**

**RADIOLOGY
DEPARTMENT**



Having a (HSG)

**Your Guide To The
Procedure**

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Your doctor has requested that we perform a HSG examination on you. We hope this leaflet will answer some of the questions that you may have.

**WHAT IS A HYSTEOSALPINGO-
GRAM (HSG)?**

It is an X-ray examination of the uterus and fallopian tubes. It involves introducing a radio-opaque contrast medium...a colourless liquid which acts as a dye...via a tube through the neck of the womb.

The examination will be carried out by a Radiologist (a doctor who specialise in diagnosis using X-rays) with the help of a Radiographer.

You will be asked to lie on the X-ray table and the radiologist will pass a small tube into your vagina and through the cervix, (neck of womb). It might feel a little uncomfortable but should not be painful. One the tube is in place, the dye is passed through the tube into the uterus and fallopian tubes under pressure. The dye outlines the uterus and tubes whilst the Radiologist and you watch a TV monitor.

Every time a picture is taken you will be asked to hold your breath.

When the tube is removed you will be given a sanitary pad because of slight bleeding from the cervix. Sometimes films are taken about 10 minutes later.

**WHEN CAN A HSG BE
PERFORMED?**

The examination must not take place if there is any chance that you could be pregnant or if you are having your period. This means that the examination normally takes place between 7 and 10 days from the start of your period. Please come to the radiology department at SMC as soon as your period starts so that we can arrange your appointment.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

The whole examination lasts about 30 minutes.

WILL IT HURT?

You should not experience any pain during the procedure, but may find the examination a little uncomfortable.

ARE THERE ANY AFTER EFFECTS?

You will be able to drive home afterwards. You may bleed slightly (similar to a light period) for one or two days afterwards; and you may experience slight pains, similar to period pains, for a few hours after the examination.

HOW WILL I GET THE RESULTS?

shown where the toilets are and advised to empty your bladder before the start of the procedure. You can keep your belongings with you at all times. You will be called into the X-room for the examination with as little delay as possible.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF RADIATION THAT I SHOULD BE AWARE OF?

With modern equipment and techniques the radiation dose to you is minimal. The staff working in this environment are constantly monitored, as is the equipment. There are very strict working practices by which we are legally obliged to abide. We can assure

Although the films taken during the procedure are checked before you leave the department, the Radiologist will need to study them closely before making his/her report. Once the radiologist has made his/her report, it will be typed and sent to X-ray office within one week. CPR must be shown when receiving X-ray results.

WILL I FIND THE PROCEDURE HELPFUL?

We realise that many women may find this a sensitive and difficult examination.

We make every effort to ensure complete privacy and to examine patients in as relaxed an atmosphere as possible. Only essential staff will be present in the X- ray room.

Many patients find that an HSG is a very helpful investigation in trying to diagnose the cause of their difficulty in having a baby.

WHAT DO I DO WHEN I ARRIVE IN THE X-RAY DEPARTMENT?

When you arrive, report to the clerical officer at the reception desk, they will then inform the radiographers of your arrival.

You will be shown to a cubicle and asked to undress and put on a white gown. You will also be you that all safeguards are taken.

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS:

The staff of the department would like your visit to be as pleasant as possible. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us at any time before, during or after your examination.

Address for any communications: Radiology Department, SMC, PO Box 12, Manama, Bahrain.

Tel. 17284005 or 17285538 / 17284005 – 17284084 (24 Hours)