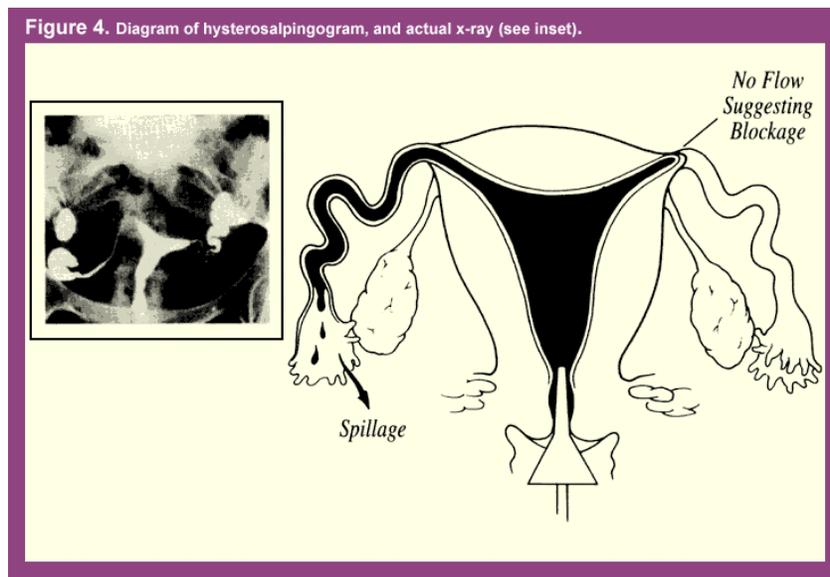


Hysterosalpingogram (HSG)

The hysterosalpingogram, or HSG, is a basic fertility test done to evaluate the uterine cavity and to determine if the fallopian tubes are open. This test is conducted in the radiology department, usually by a radiologist. After a catheter, or tube, is placed into the cervix, X-ray dye is slowly injected into the uterus and out through the fallopian tubes into the abdomen. The dye is radio-opaque, meaning it is detected by an X-ray.

The test is performed between Cycle Days 7-10, with Cycle Day 1 being the first day of the period. If there is usually light spotting before a period, then, Cycle Day 1 is the first day of full flow. If the period seems light (spotting), there may be a pregnancy and therefore the test cannot be conducted unless there is a negative blood pregnancy test. Call our office with the onset of menses so that we may schedule the HSG in radiology.

An antibiotic, doxycycline (100mg), will be prescribed to prevent a uterine infection. Take doxycycline, twice daily, starting the day before the HSG, and continue for a total of 3 days (the day before, the day of, and the day after the HSG). Also, please take Ibuprofen 800mg (four Advil) or other over-the-counter pain medicine one hour before the procedure. Cramping may be experienced when the HSG dye is injected because the uterus is a muscle which contracts when distended with fluid.



Patients who are allergic to doxycycline, iodine, or X-ray dye, should notify us before the HSG is scheduled. Patients who are allergic to the iodine-containing X-ray dye must take a special course of immune/allergy suppressing drugs before the HSG can be performed.

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